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The Semi-Weekly Colonist.

FORTY SECOND YEAR. THE VICTORIA SEMI-WEEKLY COLONIST THURSDAY, MAY 3, 1900 VOLUMF XLII-NO. 58

A Test of Strategy

Unfolding of Roberts' Plan to Make Effective His Northward Drive.

Boer Patrols Still Harass British Troops—Convoy's Narrow Escape.

Preparing Strong Position for a Great Stand—Provisions for Long Campaign.

London, May 3.—(4:10 a.m.)—The immediate objective of Lord Roberts is to establish a line of British posts from one frontier of the Free State to the other at right angles with the railway, thus preventing Boer raids southward. It is essential, therefore, that the Boers should be expelled from the rugged Thaba N'chu district and be forced to retire to Ladybrand. As the result of the desultory firing Monday and Tuesday, the Boers were pushed back a few miles, but nothing decisive appears to have been yet attained.

The Boers continue to follow their harassing tactics. One well-horsed commando operating in the neighborhood of Sanna's Post interferes with the British convoys going from Bloemfontein to Thaba N'chu. The enemy nearly captured a convoy Tuesday, but they were driven off after a brisk fight.

Preparations for an advance continue at Kimberley. Sir Alfred Milner has written to the Mayor of Kimberley assuring him that the relief of Mafeking has not ceased to occupy his attention and that of the military authorities, and nothing will be left undone to raise the siege at the earliest possible moment.

The British garrison along the railway to Warrenton have been strengthened and supplies are going forward. A mounted force has gone to Barkley West, in consequence of the Boers having occupied Windsorton. A thousand Boers threaten the communication between Boshof and Kimberley.

Malala, chief of the Taungs, has informed the British that the Boers are preparing to resist their advance at Phokwani, 20 miles north of Warrenton.

A correspondent at Lorenzo Marques cabled Tuesday that a large part of the investing force at Mafeking had been withdrawn.

Gen. Buller continues quiet. The Boers assert that they are delaying an attack upon him in the hope that all the horses of the British will die of horse sickness.

According to a correspondent of the Daily Telegraph, with Lord Roberts, President Kruger is again asking peace terms.

The Lorenzo Marques correspondent of the Daily Mail telegraphing yesterday, says: "A French steamer has arrived with 10,000 bags of coffee and 10,000 bags of sugar, consigned to a syndicate which is buying for the Pretoria government. Four more steamers with similar consignments are expected this month. It is evident that the Transvaal intends making a long resistance.

"The Boers have begun constructing fortifications at Lydenburg, where they continue storing provisions. There is also evidence of an intention to connect the disused Selate railway running northwest from Komatipoort, with Lydenburg, to destroy the Netherlands railway as a last resort, and to hold the Drakensberg range as an eastern barrier, with Lydenburg as headquarters. If this plan should be adopted the campaign will become exceedingly difficult.

"The Portuguese authorities here objected to H. M. S. Forte using her searchlights, and they next objected to night patrols. Consequently the cruiser now steams outside the harbor nightly to avoid a possible repetition of the Maine disaster."

HEIRS TO MYSTICAL MILLIONS.

United States Embassy at London Gives Another Warning to Confiding Americans.

London, May 2.—The oft-tried scheme by which so many Americans have been deluded into imagining themselves to be heirs of English chancery estates has come up once more. The United States embassy here has recently been in receipt of many enquiries on this subject which has led the officials of the High Court of Justice to make an investigation, and this has resulted in finding recrudescence of the schemes which have been exposed by the successive American ministers and ambassadors to Great Britain.

The action in the matter was due to the activity of a concern in New York City which has been in operation under the name of the Royal British Claims Agency, the only address being Post Office Box 2382. The plan consists in issuing a reprint of the London Gazette's list of pending claims in chancery under another title, charging a dollar for what costs a shilling here, omitting the essential points and minimizing the details contained in the Gazette, and offering those who have similar names to the claimants to put the matter in the hands of London lawyers for $10.

The concern's letter head has the name of a reputable London firm of lawyers printed on it, but it is partly marked out. This firm denies all connection with the claims agency and says it has been much annoyed lately by receiving letters from private individuals in America on the subject of claims which are neither worth looking up nor likely to be secured owing to the statute of limitations.

The United States embassy here has frequently issued circulars drawing the attention of Americans to the fact that unclaimed estates in chancery average only about $1,800, that there are only two approximating $75,000, and that limitations usually bar their recovery. Ambassador Choate is reporting the matter to the United States secretary of state.

CANADIANS IN AFRICA.

Surgeon and Chaplain Win Victoria Cross—An Officer's Friends Relieved—A Severe Sentence.

Montreal, May 2.—Private Hudon, of the first contingent, writing home from South Africa to friends in Quebec, says that Dr. Fiset and the Roman Catholic chaplain, Father O'Leary, both Canadians, have been recommended for the Victoria Cross.

Quebec, May 2.—A letter has been received from Capt. J. A. Theriault, who was reported killed in action at Paardeberg in February. The letter is dated March 28, saying that he was in good health.

Ottawa, May 2.—Col. McLellan, of Glengarry, in the house to-day brought up the matter of the sentence of 56 days' imprisonment passed on a Canadian soldier in South Africa for taking a hen from the Boers. He read a petition from his constituents against it, and himself protested against the undue severity. Dr. Borden said the matter was one of discipline in the British army. A short debate followed and the matter dropped.

The Filipinos Not Subdued

But Devising New Strategy by Which the Americans Are to Suffer.

Resistance Not Affected by Growing Belief That Aguinaldo Is Dead.

Washington, May 2.—Recent mail advices to the war department from the Philippines indicate that the latest plan of the insurgents is to organize into mounted bands of 100 and harass the American forces wherever possible These bands will be scattered throughout the islands and will be in daily communication with each other, as far as possible, by means of scouts, who will carry the orders to govern concerted movements and all information concerning retreats, reinforcements, etc. According to the Liberal, the organ of the Filipinos, a complete plan of military strategy will be drawn up, as a result of which the Americans will soon suffer. That paper declares that the present war, far from being over, is really more vigorous than ever.

Manila, May 2.—General Funston has discovered a rebel warehouse near Cabantuan, province of New Egija, containing all the archives of the Malolos government. Aguinaldo's correspondence up to the time of his flight, and much valuable historical matter.

The belief is growing that Aguinaldo was killed by the Igorottis. There is no proof that he has been alive since Major Peyton C. March, of the 33rd regiment, abandoned the chase after the Filipino leader in the Benquet mountains. An insurgent officer who recently surrendered to Gen. Young says that the insurgent General Tino holds this belief. Tino held regular communication with Aguinaldo until December 28, since which time he has heard nothing from him, and Tino thinks Aguinaldo would find means to communicate with him if alive. Major March's information was that there were only half a dozen soldiers with Aguinaldo when he fled beyond the Bontoco wilderness, where the savages are hostile to all strangers. Friends of Aguinaldo's wife assert that she heard nothing from him since they parted.

A FREE TRADING SULTAN.

Moving to Protest to the Powers Against Customs Duties of the Americans.

Manila, May 2.—The Sultan of Sulu, with a retinue including several of his wives, has sailed for Singapore, ostensibly on a religious mission.

A Hongkong despatch to a Manila paper says that it is believed the Sultan has gone to Singapore in order to protest to the British against the American action in establishing a high tariff against imports, claiming that it is a violation of the treaty of 1877 between Spain and Great Britain and Germany, which guaranteed the Sulu islands free trade, whereas the Americans have established a tariff nearly doubling the prices of tobacco, rice and the Sulu staples of life, most of which are imported from Singapore.

MUTINY AND MURDER.

Officers and Owners of Philippines Steamer Murdered by Native Crew.

Manila, May 2.—The Filipino crew of the steamer Escano recently mutinied in the channel between Cebu and Leyte, and killed the captain, the mate and the owner, Senor Escona, and his son, with knives, after a desperate scuffle. The mutineers then scuttled the ship and escaped to the Leyte mountains with $28,000.

TEA CROP DAMAGED.

Calcutta, May 2.—Reports received here from the tea districts show that the prospects are generally unfavorable. Hail and rain storms have done much damage to the crops.

BRIDGE JUMPER DYING.

New York, May 2.—Out of bravado, Albert W. Bryant, a conductor on the Brooklyn Rapid Transit railway, jumped from the Brooklyn bridge this afternoon. He was taken to the Hudson Street hospital, whither Marie Drake, the woman jumper, was taken. He may not recover.

Affray at Rossland

Desperado From Across the Border Brings Revolver Into a Quarrel.

One Bullet of Three Fired Injures the Spine of His Victim.

Paralysed and Dying in Hospital, While Assailants Held in Gaol.

Rossland, May 2.—As a result of a shooting affray at the Columbia Hotel, on First avenue, Henry McArthur lies in the Sisters' hospital with a wound in his back, his legs paralyzed and his head terribly beaten in, and he will probably die; while Rafel, alias William Albi, is in gaol charged with shooting him with intent to murder, and M. A. Albi also is in gaol, charged with doing McArthur great bodily harm.

Shortly after midnight Officer Raymer saw McArthur enter the Columbia lodging house, slightly intoxicated, and a few minutes afterwards heard a shot, followed in close succession by two others, from the upper floor. He rushed upstairs and found Albi, in his underclothes, flourishing a revolver over the head of McArthur, who lay prostrate on the floor of the landing. At the risk of his own life he seized Albi and disarmed him, finding that three bullets had been fired from the revolver. But for his interference McArthur would probably have been killed, for Albi had been pounding his head and face with the muzzle of the revolver.

Of the three shots the first appears to have been fired through the door of Albi's room, and missed its mark, lodging in the opposite wall. Another was fired down the hall and struck the wall in a glancing direction. The third hit McArthur in the back, and must have caused him to fall at the mercy of his assailant, who then it appears proceeded to beat the man on the head. M. A. Albi is alleged to have aided in the assault, and made off when Raymer appeared on the scene. He was arrested this morning.

Dr. Reddick, who attended McArthur, has been unable to locate the bullet or to exactly define its course. Both of McArthur's legs are paralyzed, and the doctor thinks this is due to some injury of the spine. The wounds on the face and head are so severe that they will leave scars even if McArthur should recover.

Albi has left a trail of blood in his track for the last year. He killed a man in a quarrel at the Coeur d'Alene theatre in Spokane a year ago. McArthur and Albi had a quarrel in a saloon early on Tuesday evening.

THE PRINCE A WINNER.

His Diamond Jubilee Secures the Two Thousand Guineas—Boy Jockey's Fame Established.

London, May 2.—The Two Thousand Guineas stakes, run at Newmarket today, was won by the Prince of Wales' Diamond Jubilee. Bonarosa and Sidus finished second and third in the field of ten. Sir R. Waldorf Griffiths' View Holla, ridden by Martin, led to the furlong post, when Diamond Jubilee drew clear, followed by Sidus, and making the remainder of the running won easily by four lengths. The betting was 11 to 4 against Diamond Jubilee, 50 to 1 against Bonarosa, and 100 to 1 against Sidus. L. Reiff rode Bonarosa.

This is the first time the Prince of Wales' entry has won the Two Thousand Guineas. His Royal Highness has now captured all the classic races with the exception of the Oaks Stakes.

After the running of the Two Thousand Guineas, a host of leading lights in politics and society crowded around the Prince in the paddock. Removing his hat, he shook hands with his friends and the officials of his stable, and bowed repeatedly in response to the ringing cheers given in honor of the event. Jockey Jones, though a mere stable lad, was given the mount on Diamond Jubilee in preference to the fashionable jockeys, who had hitherto been unable to get the horse into a gallop.

ISMAIL SAFELY AWAY.

Enlightened Friend of the British Fears Further Residence in Turkey.

Constantinople, May 2.—It is now learned that Ismail Kemal Bey, well known for his friendliness for Great Britain, who recently was exiled by being appointed Vali of Tripoli, and who was reported April 30 to have mysteriously disappeared, has with his three sons got safely out of Constantinople on board the Egyptian steamer Rubattini, en route for European ports. The departure of Ismail is partially due to the conviction that it is impossible for anyone of enlightened views to remain in Turkey under the present prevailing conditions.

In spite of the porte's refusal to sanction the matter, the British post office at Salonica was opened on Tuesday.

THE KAISER VISITING.

Berlin, May 2.—Emperor William arrived at Wild Park station, Potsdam, at 8:45 a.m. to-day, mounted a horse there and rode to the parade ground to inspect the troops.

The statue of Sigismond, Emperor of Hungary in 1352, will be unveiled in the Sieges Allee Sunday, morning in the presence of Emperor Francis Joseph, who will leave Berlin Sunday evening.

CANADIANS IN DAY'S FIGHTING.

Engaged with Gen. Hamilton's Division in Forcing Passage Northward.

Thaba N'chu, May 1.—Gen. Hamilton's division was engaged yesterday and to-day in forcing a passage northward. At Houtney the Boer front held a line of hills commanding the sides of the Nek. The Canadians and Gordons attacked the hills to the left, and the Shropshires and Marshall's Horse, supported by a battery, also made an attack on the enemy, who fled, leaving many wounded, and the passage was cleared.

The Boers on the mountain are now shelling outlying camps, necessitating a removal to another place.

The Boers have three guns on the hill to eastward of this place, and outside the range of the British artillery. The Boer shelling is not doing any damage.

The enemy retain their positions and the British are not attempting to dislodge them.

Gen. Hamilton, by reaching Houtney after a full day's fighting, secured the Thaba N'chu-Bloemfontein road.

London, May 2.—Lord Roberts forwards a list of the casualties of Ian Hamilton's force on April 30, as follows: Killed—Major Showers, Lieut. Parker and one private; wounded, four officers and five men; missing, two officers and ten men.

Bickerings Of the Boers

Steyn's Caustic Complaint of Neglect of Duty While Looting Claims Attention.

British General Loses Own Mess Cart and Brigade Water Carts in Retreat.

London, May 3.—The Bloemfontein correspondent of the Morning Post, telegraphing Tuesday, says: "We have captured two interesting letters. The first, which is from Steyn to Botha, complains of the neglect of the defence of Kroonstad by commandoes there, who are described as 'occupied in looting the grain districts,' which causes 'an increase of ill feeling' among the Free State burghers. Steyn concludes by declining to be responsible for the loyalty of the Free Staters unless a guarantee is given of the Transvaal's intention to protect Kdoonstad.

"The second is a letter from Kruger to the commandant at Fourteen Streams. Kruger declares that it is impossible to send the reinforcements the commandant asks for, since all the federal forces are required at their present posts, but he declares that the federals are gaining great victories, and that European intervention is only a question of days."

London, May 3.—The Morning Post has the following despatch from Mr. Winston Churchill, dated Thaba N'chu, April 29: "When Gen. Dickson retired in the circumstances related in my last telegram, his own mess cart and the brigade water carts fell into the hands of the enemy, and his rear guard was heavily fired on. This retreat compromised Gen. Hamilton, who therefore collected his forces and fell back warily on Thaba N'chu, after sharply checking the advance with musketry and artillery fire.

"Although much ammunition was expended on both sides, the losses were insignificant, the fighting being at great range. The result is that the Boers are willing to retreat, but it is not in the power of the present force to interfere with them or with their wagons."

Bloemfontein, Tuesday, May 1.—This morning Gen. Pole-Carew's division, composed of the Guards, and Gen. Stevenson's brigade, with several batteries of artillery, all in winter clothing, left Bloemfontein.

Lord Roberts, with Lady Roberts and their daughter, reviewed the division in the market place. Later Lord Roberts, while reviewing Roberts' Horse, congratulated the men upon their bravery, spoke of the gallantry of the colonial troops, and expressed the hope that he might soon review them in Pretoria.

BLUEJACKETS AT WINDSOR.

Gallant Sailors of Ladysmith Brigade Reviewed by Her Majesty.

London, May 2.—Windsor is in holiday attire to-day and decorated from end to end in honor of the naval brigade of the British cruiser Powerful, which assisted in the defence of Ladysmith. The naval men have been summoned to the Castle to be inspected by the Queen. The band of the Grenadier Guards met the naval brigade at the railroad station and played them to the Castle, through cheering throngs of people.

Capt. Lambton and the officers of the Powerful were presented to Her Majesty, who thanked Capt. Lambton and the brigade for their noble services to the Empire. The Captain replied that what they had done was nothing to what the navy was prepared to do for Her Majesty. The Queen saw the bluejackets entertained at dinner.

THE EXPULSION ORDER.

Kruger Careful to Shift Responsibility to the Shoulders of the Burghers.

London, May 2.—A despatch from Pretoria gives the text of President Kruger's proclamation expelling British subjects from the Transvaal. It says:

"As numerous burghers insist upon the removal of the British, and as the government is desirous of complying with the wishes of the burghers and others favorable to the Republic, all Britishers residing in the district and town of Pretoria and the Witwaterrand gold fields must leave the state within thirty-six hours from noon of April 30. Exception will be made in the case of those obtaining special permits."

DR. PRICE'S cream BAKING POWDER

FOR a third of a century the invaluable qualities of Dr. Price's Baking Powder have been familiar to American housewives, who have found its use invariably a guarantee of light, sweet, pure and wholesome food.

The renown of Dr. Price's Cream Baking Powder, in these closing years of the nineteenth century, is not only continental but world-wide. Its unequalled qualities are known and appreciated everywhere.

Always makes the perfect biscuit, cake and bread.

PRICE BAKING POWDER CO., CHICAGO.

NOTE.—Baking powders made from alum and other harsh, caustic acids are lower in price, but inferior in work and injurious to the stomach.

Calamity in Utah Mine

Schofield Explosion More Terrible In Results Than First Indicated.

Three Hundred Victims Now the Estimate—Deep Sympathy From London.

Schofield, Utah, May 2.—To-night's estimate of the number of killed in the terrible mine explosion here yesterday is 250, but the death list may reach 300.

The relief work is still in progress, being conducted by shifts of men. The shift now in the mine has 50 bodies ready to bring out and the number of corpses yet to be reached is still uncertain. The arriving trains are constantly bringing relatives of the victims from outside points and the local coal company has designated a committee to carry the dead to Salt Lake, Ogden and other cities.

On account of gas, No. 4 mine has been abandoned as a means of rescue and bodies are arriving at the mouth of No. 1 by the carload.

Ferrish Level has been cleared of dead and all are burned and unrecognizable.

London, May 3.—The Daily Telegraph, after alluding editorially to the generous sympathy and aid of Americans in connection with the Ottawa fire and commenting at length upon the Schofield disaster, concludes as follows: "There will be deeper sympathy with America in this awful catastrophe than has been evoked by any event on the other side of the Atlantic since the loss of the Maine."

BOER DELEGATES' MISSION.

To Explain Away the Folly of Their People in Inviting Extinction of Their Independence.

The Hague, May 2.—The Boer delegates, Fischer and Wolmarans, left today for Rotterdam, en route to the United States. A great crowd bade them farewell at the station. The delegates made short speeches thanking the populace for the kind reception extended by "the people united to them by bonds of race and religion."

Mr. Fischer told the Associated Press correspondent that the object of their visit to the United States was to appeal to the government and people in order to establish peace. He said they were going in order to rectify erroneous opinions and make the truth known, by which it would be seen that the Boers had not brought on the war, but desired only peace and the tranquil possession of independence, which was as dear to them as to the American people. He said he knew nothing regarding the statement that they would not be received officially by the government.

NOTES FROM THE CAPITAL.

Precautions Against Smallpox—Sympathy for Fire Sufferers—Copyright for Press Despatches.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Ottawa, May 2.—Col. Prior to-day called attention to the outbreak of smallpox at Winnipeg, in Republic Camp, and at Rossland, and pressed the government to take measures to prevent the spread of the disease. Mr. Fisher said he was aware that smallpox existed at Republic, and had given instructions that all people crossing into British Columbia from the States should be medically examined. In regard to the origin of the Winnipeg case, the fault clearly lay with the health authorities of that city. The quarantine officers in British Columbia were not responsible for the Manitoba outbreak.

The Ottawa fire relief appropriation passed after a strong expression of opinion that no more wooden houses ought to be allowed at the Capital.

Sympathetic messages for the fire sufferers were received to-day from the Governors of Victoria, Queensland, the Lords Provost of Edinburgh and Glasgow and the Northern Nigeria frontier force. The relief fund now exceeds four hundred thousand dollars.

The Canadian Pacific will build a station provided the city enforce stringent fire by-laws.

The government proposes introducing a copyright bill giving newspapers 18 hours copyright on specials.

OTTAWA FIRE RELIEF.

Free Masons Send Handsome Contribution—Trinidad Makes Appropriation.

Vancouver, May 2.—The Chinese Reform Association of New Westminster have wired $175 to Ottawa towards the relief of the sufferers by the Hull fire.

Ottawa, May 2.—A cable was received to-day by Sir Richard Cartwright from the Governor of Trinidad sending £500 to the relief of the fire sufferers. The amount was voted by the legislative council, and a telegram of credit forwarded to the Minister of Trade and Commerce.

Montreal, May 2.—A public meeting was held in the board of trade to-day to devise means of raising funds for the sufferers from the Ottawa and Hull fire. An influential committee was appointed with Lord Stratheona as honorary president.

Gault Bros. & Co. contributed $500 to the Ottawa fire fund to-day and also $600 received by cable from two English firms.

New York, May 2.—At a convention today of the Grand Lodge A. F. & A M. of the State of New York, upon the recommendation of the Grand Master, the sum of $2,000 was voted for the relief of sufferers from the Ottawa fire.

TO BUY LOCOMOTIVE WORKS.

Kingston, Ont., May 2.—Mackenzie & Mann are reported to be negotiating for the purchase of the Kingston Locomotive Works.

ORDEAL AT MAFEKING.

Garrison Pour Effective Volley Into Boer Storming Party—Baden-Powell Reports.

London, May 2.—A despatch from Mafeking describing the Boers' attack of April 11 says: "The bombardment of the Crensotes was the hottest of the siege. Many shells entered the hospital and women's lager. Under cover of the artillery a large force, commanded by Cronje (the younger), including the German corps, advanced close to Fort Abrams. The garrison laid low until the Boer force was at close range, when they fired a volley, killing five and wounding many. The attack was repulsed. The bombardment then ceased. The Boer, under a Red Cross flag, were permitted later to recover their dead."

Lord Roberts has telegraphed the war office from Bloemfontein under to-day's date, that news has been received from Col. Baden-Powell, the British commander at Mafeking, saying all was well there April 20.

AN EDUCATIONIST'S DEATH.

Montreal, May 2.—Abbe Claude Jules De Lavigne, director of the Seminary of Philosophy St. Sulpice of Montreal, died at the Hotel Dieu Hospital this morning. He was one of the most noted Roman Catholic educationists in Canada.

PEASANTS RESENT TITHING.

Sofia, May 2.—Demonstrations have occurred at Widin, Tirnavo and other towns, as protests against the new tithe tax. Martial law has been proclaimed in the Rustchuk district, where the peasants have killed the mayor of one village.

STANLEY RETIRING.

London, May 2.—Sir Henry Stanley, the explorer, while denying the stories of his immediate retirement from the Commons, where he represents North Lambeth in the Unionist interest, says he will not seek re-election.

"More haste less speed," and "hasten slowly," are proverbs born of experience that some things can't be hurried without loss and waste. This is specially true of eating. The railway lunch habit, "five minutes for refreshments," is a habit most disastrous to the health. You may hurry your eating. You can't hurry your digestion, and the neglect to allow proper time for this important function is the beginning of sorrows to many a busy man. When the tongue is foul, the head aches, when there are sour or bitter risings, undue fullness after eating, hot flushes, irritability, nervousness, irresolution, cold extremities, and other annoying symptoms, be sure the stomach and organs of digestion and nutrition have "broken down." Nothing will re-establish them in active healthy operation so quickly as Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery. It strengthens the stomach, nourishes the nerves, purifies the blood, and builds up the body. It is a strictly temperance medicine containing no alcohol or other intoxicant.

Given away. Dr. Pierce's great work, The People's Common Sense Medical Adviser is sent free on receipt of stamps to pay expense of mailing and customs. Send 21 one-cent stamps for the paper covered book, or 50 stamps for cloth binding, to Dr. R. V. Pierce, Buffalo, N. Y.

Big Fight Imminent

Boers Prepare for Pitched Battle With Outnumbering Host of Their Pursuers.

Roberts' Advance Awaits the Issue—Methuen's Outposts Repel Attack.

Huge Cost of the War to-Date—Spion Kop Despaches Promised.

London, May 2.—Fighting heavier than any since Ladysmith seems to be imminent near Thaba N'chu. The despatches of Lord Roberts dated Monday and Tuesday show that the Boer rear guard stubbornly resist his advance, forcing the British on Saturday and Sunday to act chiefly on the defensive. Gen. French, who is directing the operations, has at least 15,000 men. Some estimates give him 30,000. The Boers are estimated to number at least 6,000 and possibly 10,000. According to a despatch from Pretoria, dated April 28, they were expecting to give battle, and have numerous artillery.

So long as the Boers engage the attention of half of Lord Roberts' force at Thaba N'chu, his advance towards Pretoria will be delayed. No one here, however, considers that Gen. Botha will be able to stand longer than a few days. The feeling is that he must be beaten off by the masses of Lord Roberts.

The Boers attacked the British outposts at Boshof, the headquarters of Lord Methuen, on April 28, but without result.

The British guns at Warrenton shelled the Boers out of their half-constructed trenches Sunday.

A native runner got through from Mafeking to Ootsi, 61 miles north, on April 22, with despatches for nearly all the London dailies. That to the Morning Post says: "We can stick it out for two months or more. Nobody minds." Col. Plumer, who appears to have been reinforced lately by more Rhodesians, seems to be advancing again.

A British reconnoitering party fell into the hands of the Boers near Windsorton.

Lord Lansdowne, replying in the House of Lords yesterday to a question regarding warm clothing for the troops, read this despatch from Lord Roberts: "There is no necessity to appeal for warm clothing. Some corps have received more than they require, and all will be amply provided for as soon as the numerous cases of clothing and comforts of various descriptions can be brought here from the base."

Referring to a despatch from Lorenzo Marques, there are 1,000 British residents yet remaining in the Transvaal, but they are to be expelled immediately.

In the House of Commons, the parliamentary secretary of the war office, Mr. George Wyndham, announced that under the exceptional circumstances of the case, he proposed to lay on the table of the house the telegraphic correspondence between the secretary of state for war, the Marquis of Lansdowne, and the commander of the British troops in South Africa, Lord Roberts, with reference to the publication of the Spion Kop despatches.

Replying to a question on the subject, the financial secretary to the treasury said the cost of the war up to March 31 was $116,250,000.

NEWMARKET RACES.

American Jockeys and Horses Well Placed in First Day's Events.

London, May 1.—The opening to-day of the Newmarket first spring meeting attracted large crowds, those present including the Prince of Wales.

The American jockeys were remarkably successful, winning first in three out of the seven races. J. Reiff, Rigby and J. H. Martin each won a race, while "Tod" Sloan and L. Reiff were placed five times.

Richard Croker's Manhattan Boy, ridden by L. Reiff, was third in a maiden two-year-old race, and Mr. W. Duke's Stamina, with Rigby in the saddle, won the 2,000 guineas trial plate of 200 sovereigns.

MICHIGAN FOREST FIRES.

Large Tracts Ablaze and Settlements Sharing in Destruction of Timber.

Iron Mountain, May 1.—A steamer sent from her reached Niagara in time to save that place from destruction by the forest fires which are raging. In Breen and Felch townships, this county, the woods are all ablaze and an immense amount of valuable timber is being destroyed. The fires are also doing much damage between here and Wausaukee and North Ontonagon.

COAL MINE AFIRE.

Four Men Known to Have Perished and Other Lives May Have Been Sacrificed.

Roanoke, Va., May 1.—A considerable portion of the Toms Creek coal mines in Wise county has been afire since last Saturday. Four men are known to have been caught in the mine and suffocated. The fire is reported under control. The amount of damage and the number of lives lost cannot be ascertained at present.

NOTES FROM THE CAPITAL.

Snub by the Imperial Government—Tardy Presentation of Bluebooks—Col. Otter's Report.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Ottawa, May 1.—The correspondence respecting commissions in the British army was brought down to-day. The government sought to procure the nomination of the officers, but the Imperial government positively refused to take the matter out of the hands of Lord Minto, who has asked Lord Roberts to make selections from the first contingent.

The debate on the address closes tomorrow.

A report was received from Colonel Otter to-day detailing the recent operations of the first contingent.

Under opposition pressure a number of bluebooks were presented to-day.

NOTES FROM THE CAPITAL.

Fifth Regiment Band Efforts Appreciated—Sympathetic Messages—Coal Oil Freights.

Ottawa, April 30.—A message from Col. Gregory announcing the success of the Fifth Regiment's sacred concert is greatly appreciated here.

The Hull corporation have decided to grant the Eddy Company exemption from taxation for ten years if they rebuild there.

The experience of the St. John fire relief work has been placed at the disposal of the committee here.

Sympathetic messages were received today from Premier Seddon, New Zealand, the French government, Lord Aberdeen, Baroness Macdonald, and Premier Joseph Martin; the Toronto Board of Trade has raised four thousand dollars.

Pte. Defoe of the Royal Canadian Artillery was killed in battle on the 25th. Col. Otter and Pte. Burns of Ottawa were slightly wounded.

The government have given decision in favor of the Independent Oil Company, compelling the Grand Trunk and Canadian Pacific to restore the low rate on American oil.

Horror in a Utah Mine

Eighty-Five Dead Bodies Recovered and Many Yet to Be Found.

Terrific Explosion Maims Scores Who Escaped From Instant Death.

Salt Lake, Utah, May 1.—A terrific explosion occurred to-day in the winter quarters of the Pleasant Valley Camp's coal mine at Schofield, on the Rio Grande & Western near Colton. The explosion is attributed to the blowing up of a number of kegs of blasting powder. The work of rescue is going on, everything possible is being done to relieve the suffering and ascertain the number of dead.

A late special from Schofield states positively that there have been 85 dead bodies taken out of the Pleasant coal mines. There were 250 men at work, and besides the killed there are many seriously injured.

MISHAPS IN CANADA.

Old Farmer Killed by Street Car—Italian Victims of Dynamite—Little Boy Drowned.

Winnipeg, May 1.—An aged farmer named James Lougheed was thrown from his rig on Main street late this afternoon while attempting to avoid a street car, and almost instantly killed. He was aged 68 years, and originally from Carleton county, Ontario.

A Port Arthur special says four Italians were blown to pieces by dynamite to-day, while working on the new Ontario & Rainy River railway.

Chatham, May 1.—The little son of Daniel McDonald, of Dover, aged a year and a half, was drowned in a pail of sour milk yesterday.

FINE ARTS PALACES.

President Inaugurates Attractive Feature of Paris Exposition—The Offerings From America.

Paris, May 1.—President Loubet inaugurated the Palaces of the Fine Arts this forenoon. He drove to the exposition along a troop-lined route from the Elysee. The Fine Arts Palaces are situated in the portion of the grounds adjoining the Champs Elysee. The President drove to the terrace, where the premier, M. Waldeck-Rousseau, the members of the cabinet and the exposition authorities had assembled. After the usual greetings the President made a tour of the rooms, being received at the entrance of each foreign section by the respective commissioners. The American exhibit, which is an attractive one, is placed between the British and French sections, and occupies a splendid location at the head of the grand staircase. The galleries are hung and furnished with rich materials, the prevailing tone being sage green, which is a very restful color in contrast with the strong red covering of the adjacent sections. The museums and private collectors of the United States who have been appealed to have almost all loaned valuable paintings, which make a creditable exhibit of American art.

VICTORIA CROSS WELL EARNED.

Artillerymen Who Worked Guns Single Handed When All Their Comrades Had Been Shot.

Bloemfontein, April 30.—A general order has been published awarding the Victoria Cross to an officer, a non-commissioned officer and a gunner of "A" Battery of the Royal Horse Artillery for gallantry displayed during the recent fighting at Sanna's Post.

London, May 1.—The names of the recipients of the Victoria Cross, under the order cabled from Bloemfontein, are supposed to be Major Hornby, Sergt. Parker and Gunner Lodge.

A letter from Sergt. Parker describing the Sanna's Post disaster, is published to-day. He says: "In galloping from the spruit my gun was overturned and every horse was shot. I got up with No. 4 gun and we remained three hours under the most terrible fire. In five minutes I had lost two complete detachments, and only Gunner Lodge and myself were left to work two guns, he at one and I at the other. We remained at the two guns, loading, laying and firing both ourselves, and brought both guns out of action by ourselves. We have been recommended for the Victoria Cross."

THE PRINCE OF WALES.

London, May 1.—The Prince of Wales arrived in London to-day from Copenhagen and met with an enthusiastic demonstration at the railway station, and while passing through the streets on his way to Marlborough House.

CAPE IRISH LOYALISTS.

Capetown, May 1.—At a big meeting held here to-night an Irish Association was formed. Those present cheered all references to the Queen and the Deputy Mayor declared that the voice of Irishmen in South Africa was "for Queen and Country."

Mafeking's Evil Plight

Boer Investment Closer Than Ever But Assaults Stoutly Resisted.

Ambulance Oxen Now Being Eaten and Trees Cut for Fuel.

Swarm of Locusts Welcomed as Variation of the Siege Rations.

London, May 2.—Lady Sarah Wilson, telegraphing from Mafeking April 29, says:

"The investment is so close that no runners have entered or issued forth for ten days.

"There was a terrific bombardment on April 11, but with the exception of destroying some houses it was harmless. The Boers then made a determined attack on the southwestern forts, which was successfully repulsed.

"The Boers have formed a new laager on the south. Many horses are dying of horse sickness. Trees are being cut down for fuel.

"The garrison is now eating the ambulance oxen, reserving the mules until the last. The daily ration now is six ounces of gritty oat bread, a pound of bully beef and a quart of skilly."

A despatch to the Times from Mafeking, dated April 20, says: "A sidelight is thrown upon the hungry condition of the garrison by the fact that the united efforts of the whites and natives have recently been devoted to catching a swarm of locusts which passed over the town."

CANADIANS IN AFRICA.

Col. Herchmer Takes Staff Appointment—Hardships of March Telling on Men.

Toronto, May 1.—The Globe correspondent with the second mounted contingent wires: Col. Herchmer has taken a staff appointment at Capetown and Major Howe is now commanding the Canadian Rifles.

Private Bradley, of Ottawa, died from pneumonia as a result of being thrown into the water by the horse which he was riding.

Fearful rains, almost impassable roads and a threatened shortage of provisions and storage, are characterizing the march. These hardships are beginning to tell. We left nineteen men in the hospital at Carnarvon, and another hospital has been established here.

Private Hopkins, "D" Battery, accidentally discharged his revolver, the bullet taking effect in his knee. The wound is not dangerous.

Toronto, May 1.—The Evening Telegram's correspondent cables that all the invalided Canadians at Netley are doing well, except Private Weir, of the Queen's Own Rifles. They complain of the doctors at the hospital, declaring that all of them are students owing to the best doctors being at the front.

They also complain of the tardiness of the Dominion government in not either removing them to Africa or to their homes.

Montreal, May 1.—The fifty reserves for Strathcona's Horse, now in South Africa, sailed by the Dominion liner Vancouver, Capt. McDonald, from this port this morning. They go to Liverpool, thence to Southampton, and from there by steamer to Capetown.

OTTAWA FIRE RELIEF.

Fund Now Close on Half a Million—Lord Mayor's Remittance—New York Town's Generosity.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Ottawa, May 1.—The parliamentary grant of $100,000 for the relief of the fire sufferers was introduced to-day and adopted unanimously. Mr. Foster and others urged that steps should be taken to prevent the piling of lumber within the city.

The Japanese residents of British Columbia have sent through Consul Shimesu $250 to the relief fund, which now reaches $400,000. The Lord Mayor of London has cabled $25,000.

St. John, May 1.—The common council met to-day for the first time. Its first act was to vote $2,000 to the Hull-Ottawa fire relief fund.

Woodstock, May 1.—The council to-night voted $250 for fire relief.

Brockville, May 1.—Brockville citizens sent $600 subscriptions to-day to Ottawa.

Listowel, May 1.—The citizens sent $500 worth of goods to Ottawa to-day.

Cornwall, May 1.—The council voted $200 to Ottawa last night.

Chatham, May 1.—The council has voted $100 for Ottawa fire relief.

Cobourg, May 1.—The council has voted $100 for Ottawa.

Port Hope, May 1.—The council to-night voted $100 for the Ottawa fire relief fund.

Oswego, N.Y., May 1.—The Journal-Palladium to-day forwarded a draft for $833 for the Ottawa fire sufferers, proceeds of a subscription list.

London, May 1.—The Lord Mayor's Ottawa relief fund has now reached £12,000, of which £10,000 has been remitted.

FIVE MILLIONS FOR QUEBEC.

Contract Awarded for Mammoth Bridge to Span the St. Lawrence River.

Montreal, May 1.—The Phoenix Iron Company, of Philadelphia, has secured the contract to build the largest cantilever bridge in the world, over the St. Lawrence river at Quebec. The cost will be in the neighborhood of $5,000,000.

FABULOUS MILLIONS.

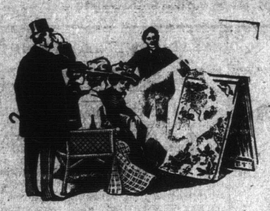
London, May 1.—Francis E. Brooks, a machinist living in a small cottage here, has fallen heir to $9,000,000 in California, through the death of an uncle. The estate includes the California Central railway.

JURY ON MORMONISM.

Salt Lake, May 1.—The jury in the case of B. H. Roberts on trial for unlawful cohabitation, disagreed and were discharged.

WALLPAPERS.

The most Comprehensive assortment of



WALL HANGINGS

ever imorted to the province

Write for samples and prices. Give us an idea of whthkindof a room yoe wish to use it on and leav res ot

WEILER BROS, . Victoria, B. C.

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL. . .

Still in Suspense

Lack of News From the Front Thought to Indicate Big Move Impending.

Boers Still Protecting Retreat While Showing Activity in New Quarter.

Roberts Credited With Refusing Buller's Resignation—Horse Sickness.

London, May 1.—3.50 a.m.—The Boers are now showing uncommon activity west of Bloemfontein. They are in force between Fourteen Streams and Kimberley.

On Sunday they occupied Windsorton, west of the railway and now threaten to interrupt communications of the British force at Warrenton to the north.

East of Bloemfontein the Boers on Sunday night were still holding the hills near Thaba N'Chu, while behind them long wagon trains loaded with wheat for the Boer army in the north are moving through Ladybrand.

The British captured one Boer convoy on Saturday, but its size is not mentioned in the despatches, which barely announce the fact.

Wepener, lately the scene of incessant fighting, is deserted, Gen. Brabant and Col. Dalgety having moved northward.

According to information from Mazeru the main body of the Boers reached Leeuw river, due west of Ladybrand, on Sunday, small parties trailing behind at intervals of ten miles to protect the rear and whip up the heels. Slight outpost actions take place daily beyond Karee Siding where the head of the British invasion is centred.

African horse sickness has broken out in General Buller's army, especially among freshly arrived animals. The Bloemfontein correspondents point out that the deficiencies in the veterinary department cause thousands of losses.

General Lucas Meyer, replying to General Buller's complaint that some of the British prisoners at Pretoria are lodged in gaol, says that only those are so treated who tried or are suspected of trying to escape. He retorts, however, that Boer prisoners are confined in the town gaol at Pietermaritzburg with natives.

The morning papers give special prominence to the statement of a news agency that Sir Redvers Buller sent his resignation to Lord Roberts after the Spion Kop censures were published and that Lord Roberts declined to accept it.

The war specials to-day consist chiefly of detached scraps of speculation, the favorite introduction of the military commentators and editorial writers being that, as only scant news has been wired, something big is probably about to happen.

The Daily Chronicle expert says it a solid victory is to be attained the British must have a different leadership from what has been displayed in the Dewetsdorp operations.

CANAL WRECKERS' TRIAL.

Four Men Arraigned at Welland—Suspicion of Further Plotting.

Welland, April 30.—The trial of Walsh, Nolan and Dullman, charged with dynamiting lock 24 of Welland canal, opened here to-day before Police Magistrate Logan. A large number of spectators were present.

Toronto, April 30.—It is stated around the parliament buildings this morning that orders have been issued to seven battalions in Western Ontario to hold themselves in readiness to proceed to St. Clair river for frontier duty. The dynamite mystery deepens. It is said important developments will follow.

FATALITIES IN MANITOBA.

Youth Found Dead on His Father's Doorstep—A Half-Breed Drowned.

Winnipeg, April 30.—Mr. Cecil Flexon, the 17-year-old son of Mr. Thos. Flexon, druggist, was found dead on his father's doorstep. The remains were first discovered by a next-door neighbor. An inquest will be held.

John Daniels, a half-breed, aged 35, was found drowned at Rat Portage today. It is supposed that he fell into the water while in a fit.

CROPS CHECKED.

London, April 30.—The Mark Lane Express to-day, in its weekly review of the crop situation, says: "The unseasonable return of winter last week destroys the last chance of the wheat and spring sown corn in England and France being reaped at the average date, while it materially diminishes the prospect of the crops attaining the average yield."

If sick headache is misery, what are Carter's Little Liver Pills if they will positively cure it? People who have used them speak frankly of their worth. They are small and easy to take.

HONORS FROM McGILL.

Conferred Upon Two Prominent Americans—Friendship of the Two Peoples.

Montreal, April 30.—At the annual convention of McGill University to-day, the degree of LL.D. was conferred upon Captain A. T. Mahan, U.S. Navy, and Professor George F. Parker, professor of physics in the University of Pennsylvania. The latter in acknowledgment of the honor conferred upon Captain Mahan spoke briefly, saying that if he did not believe the British in the right in the present war, he would never have raised his voice and used his pen in their behalf. He alluded to the predominance of the English tongue and said that while the commercial rivalry of the United States and Great Britain would always provide differences it was their duty to see that these did not lead into hostilities.

Honor for The Colonials

Empire League Have a Banquet in Recognition of African Service.

Prince of Wales in Address Refers Feelingly to Recent Menace.

London, April 30.—The banquet given at the Hotel Cecil in London this evening by the British Empire League in honor of the colonial troops in South Africa and of the Australian Federates brought together a brilliant gathering. The Duke of Devonshire, lord president of the council of ministers, presided, flanked by the Prince of Wales, the Duke of York, the Duke of Cambridge, the Duke of Fife, the Marquis of Salisbury, Joseph Chamberlain, Lord Wolseley, Lord Strathcona and Mount Royal, Col. Denison, president of the Canadian League, and Lord Lansdowne. The company included some 250 others.

In proposing the health of the Queen, the Duke of Devonshire remarked that Her Majesty's recent visits to London and Dublin had made clear to everyone the respect and loyalty felt for her by all parts of her dominions. He was confident that if Her Majesty could visit the colonies she would receive there a welcome even more enthusiastic.

The Prince of Wales, responding to the toast to himself, the Princess and the other members of the royal family, made the following brief reference to the Brussels incident: "I will say no more than this: all of us are in the hands of God, and whether we lose our life through sickness, accident or the hands of the assassin, we must bow to His inscrutable will. I am glad to have this opportunity not only of thanking you of England, but of thanking others from far distant parts, not only of the Empire, but of the civilized world."

MONTREAL RIFLES FIGHTING.

A Splendid Day's Work Reported from Africa with No Causalties.

Montreal, April 30.—The correspondent in South Africa of the Montreal Herald cables under date of April 28 that B. Squadron Mounted Rifles under Major Williams was engaged at Leeuw Kop on Sunday. They retired after having fought splendidly. Capt. Straubenzie's Horse was shot down under him, and four others had similar escapes.

CHICAGO TO LIVERPOOL.

Direct Steamers Proposed For This Route and Also For Montreal Service.

Chicago, April 30—Steamers from Chicago to Liverpool are likely to be run before the close of navigation. The boats will carry 75,000 bushels of grain on a 14-foot draught. The present rate is 13½ cents a bushel. It is proposed to fit out steamers to carry dressed beef. There is said to be a profit of $15,000 in making the trip from Chicago to Liverpool in twenty days. It is also proposed to run a line of steamers between Chicago and Montreal, where cargoes can be unloaded and the long trip across the Atlantic saved to the lake ships. The through service has been under discussion several years, and it is nearer a consummation than heretofore has been the case.

FOR SHOOTING GOEBEL.

Frankfort, Ky., April 30.—When the circuit court opened at 2 p. m. to-day Caleb Powers, John Davis, Harlan Whittaker, W. H. Culton and Tallow Dick Coobs were arraigned on motion of the commonwealth, charged with complicity in the Goebel murder. All entered pleas of not guilty.

UGANDA RAILWAY.

London, April 30.—The House of Commons to-day adopted by 185 votes to 40, a vote of £193,000 for the completion of the Uganda railway. Upwards of £3,000,000 has already been expended on this line.

Tactics or Fenians

Sensation Seekers in Ontario Exercised Over Order for Tactical Drill.

Take Seriously the Fictitious Plot Outlined for the Officers' Instruction.

Five Battalions of Western District to Manoeuvre on International Border.

Toronto, April 30.—Fresh rumors of contemplated Fenian invasion have been started by the issue of orders by Lieut.-Col. Holmes, D.O.C., at London for the mobilization of five battalions of infantry in Western Ontario at some point on the international frontier. The regiments in question are the 21st Essex, 27th Lambton, 7th London Fusiliers, 26th Middlesex and the 25th Battalion. The military authorities, however, scout the idea of any fear of Fenian invasion and claim that the force is being called out for tactical exercise. In pursuance of this intention the following "special order" has been issued from the Chief Staff Officer, Ottawa, to the District Officer Commanding, London:

"Information has reached the General Officer Commanding of the possibility of an attempt on the part of a raiding party to cross either the St. Clair river or Detroit river and endeavor to destroy some portion of the railway system connecting Sarnia and London, or the Windsor, Chatham & London railway. You will hold the following force at your disposal, making whatever arrangements may seem best to thwart such an intention." Then follow the details already given as to the regiments to be called out.

London, April 30.—Col. Hughes, D.O.C., says in regard to the report that several regiments are to hold themselves in readiness to proceed to St. Clair flats, that the orders are simply for the purpose of drilling. Col. Holmes is not in receipt of any orders from Ottawa regarding the matter, but the order has been given by him for the object named.

TROUBLES OF THE TURK.

Customs Taxes to Be Raised if the Powers Permit—Electricity Under a Ban.

Constantinople, April 30.—The circular issued by the Porte relative to increasing the customs duties, says the raising of the duties to eleven per cent. is more in the nature of a project than of a decision, and invokes the embassies to acquiesce. The circular maintains that a provisional measure is rendered necessary by the exigencies of the financial situation and requests the embassies to appoint delegates to conclude new treaties.

An irade has been issued prohibiting the importation of all electrical apparatus including bells.

Ismail Kemail Bey, well known for his friendliness for Great Britain, who was recently appointed vali of Tripoli and thereby practically exiled, has mysteriously disappeared. It is believed that he had been planning to escape with his three sons. The affair has produced a great sensation at Yildiz Kiosk, because the flight of Ismail is hardly less important than that of Masmad Pasha, the Sultan's brother-in-law, who disappeared from Constantinople on December 14 last, and it is considered another symptom of the state of affairs in Turkey.

London, May 2.—The Constantinople correspondent of the Standard says: "The note of the Porte on the customs duties, is declared by the embassies to be completely satisfactory. Negotiations for the adoption of a specific tariff next year are expected to begin soon. Thus the Porte closes what threatened to be a disagreeable question."

ALASKAN CIVIL CODE.

Alien Location Amendment Withdrawn and Measure Passes the Senate.

Washington, May 1.—After having been under consideration more than two months the Alaskan civil code bill was passed by the senate to-day. The amendment relating to the alien location of mining claims has delayed the passage of the measure for several weeks. Mr. Carter therefore to-day withdrew the amendment and all other points in dispute, and a few minutes later the bill was passed. It provides a full civil code of procedure for the district of Alaska.

CHINESE IN PHILIPPINES.

Check on Surprising Number Certified by American Consuls—Reform in Criminal Procedure.

Manila, May 1.—Major-General Otis has issued an order which will have the effect of stopping evasions of the Chinese immigration laws. Instead of the certificates of former residence issued by American consuls at Chinese ports, Chinamen desiring to enter the country must produce certificates proving former residence, with proof that they still have property or domestic interests in the Philippines. Hitherto a surprising number of Chinamen have been arriving under consular certificates.

Another order, making changes in the Spanish criminal procedure has been issued, giving an accused person the right of habeas corups, of being confronted with witnesses against himself and of open trial; exempting the accused from testifying against himself; establishing the American system of bail and abolishing the priests' exemption from trial by the civil courts for crimes and misdemeanors. These are the only changes immediately desirable. A complete revision of the code is left for the commission.

EXPULSION OF BRITISH.

Pretoria, April 30.—As a sequence to the Johannesburg explosion the government has ordered British subjects with a few exceptions to leave the republic within 48 hours. Commandant Schatt has been relieved of the military command at Johannesburg and has gone on command.

THE BOER MISSION.

Delegates Tell Dutch Banquetters That All Fighting Men Are Yet in the Field.

Amsterdam, May 1.—At abanquet given this evening to the members of the Boer Peace Commission the president of the Transvaal committee proposed the toast "Success to the mission."

Mr. Fischer, of the delegation, who replied, expressed the thanks of the envoys for the sympathy that had been shown them by the people of common origin with themselves.

Mr. Deerdyn, secretary of the mission, replying to the toast to the health of Presidents Kruger and Steyn, said that although some of the Boers might have returned to their homes for a brief visit, no commandoes of the Transvaal or Free State had permanently returned. He declared also that the rumors of the submission of the Free Staters was absolutely without foundation.

PLUMBERS ON STRIKE.

Halifax, May 1.—The journeymen plumbers went out on strike to-day for $2.25 a day. They have been getting $2, and the master plumbers refused a demand for an increase.

Boers Trapped But Escaped.

Enemy Came Boldly Out to Offer Battle When British Expected Capture.

Turned the Tables on Their Pursuers Who Found Safety in Retirement.

London, May 1.—Mr. Winston Churchill, telegraphing to the Morning Post, from Thaba N'chu, April 28, and describing the operations there says:

"Yesterday upon withdrawal of the British demonstrations on both flanks of the enemy, the Boers pressed to close quarters and Kitchener's Horse were unable to evacuate their position until midnight. The suspense caused great anxiety.

"To-day's operations were intended to drive out or to intercept the Boers. They occupied a wide horseshoe of mountains with the convek face to us. Gen. Hamilton succeeded in crushing the Boers on the right and opening a road for Gen. Dickison's cavalry brigade which dashed through and hunted the enemy from ridge to ridge shelling them with horse artillery.

"At last we arrived at the rear of the horseshoe, and the Boers in parties of 200 could be seen within the enclosed space, running about like rats in a trap. Dickinson hoped to make a bag, and he signalled to Hamilton regarding the situation. Hamilton came at once, bringing up every soldier he could find.

"Suddenly, about half-past four, the Boer army, nearly four thousand strong, moved out of the horseshoe, and began marching northeast. I had never before seen such an array of Boers. The order was so regular, that, at first it was believed they were General Gordon's brigade, but they quickly opened with artillery on Dickinson.

"At the same time, the Boers who had escaped earlier in the day from our trap, turned in force on Dickinson's left and rear with two guns. In the circumstances Dickinson resolved to retire, and he only just withdrew in time."

CANAL NAVIGATION.

Albany, N. Y., April 30.—Opening of navigation on the Champlain canal has been delayed by a leak which was discovered about some new work in the vicinity of Whitehall. The repairs will probably be completed in time for opening the Champlain canal to navigation Thursday at noon.

DOCTORS' CONGRESS.

Washington, May 1.—The fifth triennial congress of physicians and surgeons of the United States and Canada began here to-day. About 500 members were in attendance.

LADYSMITH MENACED.

Boers Making Demonstrations Pointing to Possibility of New Assault.

Ladysmith, May 1.—There is renewed activity among the Boers on this side of the Drakensberg mountains. Preparations here to check an advance are complete.

SYDNEY'S PLAGUE REPORT.

Nearly Two Hundred Cases to Date with High Percentage of Mortality.

Sydney, N.S.W., May 1.—The number of cases of bubonic plague officially reported thus far is 188, of which 54 have proved fatal.

Port Said, May 1.—Three new cases of bubonic plague have been reported here.

GERMANS IN VENEZUELA.

Berlin, May 1.—The German second-class cruiser Vineta will go to Venezuelan waters to protect German subjects in Venezuela.

EMBASSY AT ROME.

Berlin, May 1.—The Berlin papers assert that the imperial givernment will establish an embassy at the vatican.

STEAMER ON FIRE.

London, May 1.—The British steamer Picqua, Capt. Brown, which returned to Trieste after sailing for New York, on fire as before reported, had her lower hold and between decks burned extensively, most of the beams and stringer plates warped, twenty-one frames and intermediate stringers badly cracked, and other severe damage.

CHESS TOURNEY.

London, May 1.—The twelfth round of the masters' and amateurs' chess tournament was played to-night, resulting thus: Physick lost to Blackburne, and Loman to Gunsborg. All the other games were adjourned.

MILL AND ELEVATOR BURNED.

Marietta, Mich., May 1.—The Phoenix flouring mill and grain elevator was burned to the ground to-day. Loss $100,000; insurance $30,000.

Will be found an excellent remedy for sick headache. Carter's Little Liver Pills. Thousands of letters from people who have used them prove this fact. Try them.

New Activity At Tex

Force of About Four H Men to Be Put t Work There.

Development of the Mines fies Great Expectatio Formed of Them.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Vancouver, April 30.—Messrs and Scott of the Union Iron W Francisco are to put 400 men on their Texada Island iron m away. This important stateme by Mr. J. J. Palmer, who is with Mr. Christie of biscuit developing the Marble Bay Texada Island. Mr. Palmer siastic over the great future i Texada Island. In speaking of Iron Works property Mr. P that it was a veritable mounta and marvellously rich.

Recently Messrs. Prescott an cured the services of an Am pert on iron ore who represe Hill of the Great Northern well as themselves. This expe in effect that the ore was as r iron ore in the world, runnin to 72 per cent. iron; that the one mile and a quarter in lengt there was approximately 5,00 of ore in sight. The opinion experts previously engaged t the property being borne out Iron Works people concluded t safe enough for them to go a Palmer said that when he le men were surveying in the the mines for the purpose of c large substantial wharves to d These wharves will be built a an extensive plant installed a three and four hundred men get out ore. The iron would straight to San Francisco, b and provisions, of course, wo be secured at Victoria or Van

In speaking of the general p Texada Island, Mr. Palmer sa latest transfer of property w of the Cotton claims on Blu These crown granted copper c been held by Mr. F. Carter the last ten years. The surfa of these claims is better th other properties on the Island Palmer had himself traced for one vein which outcropped 35 wide and ran $35 a ton for The purchaser was W. H. superintendent of the Van Anda The price named is $13,000, an the figure was well up in the

The Van Anda people are over 400 feet with good sho up to date have treated 6,000 which have netted them in $150,000.

The ore is in limestone an pockets, the formation being t over the Island. A huge bou as big as a house would be running very rich then this w down to three or four feet, so a stringer and then widen out again. The Van Anda had in place down to the 400-foo this had encouraged other m to development work.

Mackenzie & Mann have a f developing their claims. M schmidt & Christie, have a go he had been told, on their Ge and as far as his properties cerned he was much pleased thus far. He and Mr. Christ to owned the claims and th attempting to treat any ore which had been thrown out ment work. They were ma of their property. They had see the ore for themselves assured before their eyes bei stalled a concentrating plan other means to secure valu ore. They had thus far atta of 200 feet and had 1,200 f and this work had exposed 20 ore.

They are now shipping 7 first grade ore to the smelt 8,000 tons of second and thi on the dump. They have working and at present the the Van Anda people and t $20,000 a month, but that w circumstance to what it w day. Mr. Palmer said the on his property now expose long and from 6 feet to 40 f they are now sinking a sh before they commenced to ore. He and Mr. Christi engaged opening up other the islands.

TAXES ON ONTARIO

Provisions of This Year's B ing New Basis for P Revenue.

The Ontario government abolishes all royalties on provides that the Lieuten in-Council may impose a m the gross quantity of the ore tax will be at the following Iron, 50 cents per ton; ton, or $15 per ton of met partly treated or reduced; ton, or $25 if partly treate nickel $10 per ton, or $60 i ed or reduced; copper and per ton, or $20 and $50 re ton of metal contents if pa reduced; all other ores, such be imposed by order-in-co to exceed 5 per cent. of the thereof in a free market. cost $10, shall be necessar of the metals for which a posed.

It is provided, howeve such ores are smelted or Dominion of Canada, in s to yield fine metals, or any for direct use in the arts w treatment the tax may be

The tax will not apply t the annual output of ore is tons.

A further provision in r tax is that by proclamati remitted, or a lower rate case of ore or minerals United Kingdom, or any B dependency.

Another clause ratifies council providing that all or leased will contain the the ore be refined in Can

A number of farther provisions which are int guard the miners in the us the internal working of th complete code of signals f descending the shaft.

All reservations of mi minerals contained in pate to July 1, 1897, are to New Denver Ledge.

...BOER MISSION.

...ll Dutch Banquetters That ...ing Men Are Yet in the Field.

...n, May 1.—At abanquet giv... ing to the members of the ... Commission the president of ...al committee proposed the ...s to the mission."
...r, of the delegation, who re... sed the thanks of the en... sympathy that had been ...by the people of common ori... mselves.
...yn, secretary of the mission, ... the toast to the health of ... Kruger and Steyn, said that ...e of the Boers might have ...heir homes for a brief visit, ...bes of the Transvaal or Free ...rmanently returned. He de... hat the rumors of the sub... e Free Staters was absolute... oundation.

...BERS ON STRIKE.

... May 1.—The journeymen ...nt out on strike to-day for ... They have been getting ... master plumbers refused a ... an increase.

... Trapped But Escaped.

...ame Boldly Out to Offer ... When British Ex...pected Capture.

...the Tables on Their ...rs Who Found Safety ...in Retirement.

... May 1. — Mr. Winston ...telegraphing to the Morning ... Thaba N'chu, April 28, and ...the operations there says:
...y upon withdrawal of the ...onstrations on both flanks of ... the Boers pressed to close ...d Kitchener's Horse were un...cuate their position until mid... suspense caused great anx...
... operations were intended to ...r to intercept the Boers. They ... wide horseshoe of mountains ...onvek face to us. Gen. Ham...eded in crushing the Boers on ...and opening a road for Gen. ... cavalry brigade which dash... and hunted the enemy from ...dge shelling them with horse ...
... we arrived at the rear of the ... and the Boers in parties of ... be seen within the enclosed ...ning about like rats in a trap. ... hoped to make a bag, and he ...o Hamilton regarding the sit...amilton came at once, bringing ...soldier he could find.
...ly, about half-past four, the ..., nearly four thousand strong, ... of the horseshoe, and began ...northeast. I had never before ... an array of Boers. The order ...gular, that, at first it was be...y were General Gordon's bri... they quickly opened with ar...Dickinson.
... same time, the Boers who had ...rlier in the day from our trap, ... force on Dickinson's left and ... two guns. In the circum...ickinson resolved to retire, and ...st withdrew in time."

...ANAL NAVIGATION.

... N. Y., April 30.—Opening of ...n on the Champlain canal has ...yed by a leak which was dis...about some new work in the ...f Waterford. The repairs will ... be completed in time for open... Champlain canal to navigation ... at noon.

...OCTORS' CONGRESS.

...ngton, May 1.—The fifth tri...ongress of physicians and sur... the United States and Canada ...re to-day. About 500 members ... attendance.

...ADYSMITH MENACED.

...Making Demonstrations Pointing ...Possibility of New Assault.

...mith, May 1.—There is renewed ... among the Boers on this side of ...kensberg mountains. Prepara...e to check an advance are com...

...NEY'S PLAGUE REPORT.

...Two Hundred Cases to Date ...High Percentage of Mortality.

..., N.S.W., May 1.—The number ... of bubonic plague officially re...hus far is 188, of which 54 have ...fatal.
...aid, May 1.—Three new cases of ... plague have been reported here.

...RMANS IN VENEZUELA.

..., May 1.—The German second...uiser Vineta will go to Vene... waters to protect German sub... Venezuela.

...EMBASSY AT ROME.

..., May 1.—The Berlin papers as...t the imperial givernment will ...h an embassy at the vatican.

... STEAMER ON FIRE.

...n, May 1.—The British steamer ... Capt. Brown, which returned to ... after sailing for New York, on ... before reported, had her lower ...d between decks burned exten... most of the beams and stringer ... warped, twenty-one frames and ...diate stringers badly cracked, ...er severe damage.

... CHESS TOURNEY.

...on, May 1.—The twelfth round of ...sters' and amateurs' chess tourna...as played to-night, resulting thus: ... lost to Blackburne, and Loman ...sborg. All the other games were ...ed.

... AND ELEVATOR BURNED.

...etta, Mich., May 1.—The Phoenix ... mill and grain elevator was burn...he ground to-day. Loss $100,000; ...ce $30,000.

...be found an excellent remedy for ...adache. Carter's Little Liver Pills. ...nds of letters from people who have ...em prove this fact. Try them.

New Activity At Texada

Force of About Four Hundred Men to Be Put to Work There.

Development of the Mines Justifies Great Expectations Formed of Them.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Vancouver, April 30.—Messrs. Prescott and Scott of the Union Iron Works, San Francisco are to put 400 men to work on their Texada Island iron mines right away. This important statement is made by Mr. J. J. Palmer, who is associated with Mr. Christie of biscuit fame in developing the Marble Bay mines on Texada Island. Mr. Palmer is enthusiastic over the great future in store for Texada Island. In speaking of the Union Iron Works property Mr. Palmer said that it was a veritable mountain of iron, and marvellously rich.

Recently Messrs. Prescott and Scott secured the services of an American expert on iron ore who represented J. J. Hill of the Great Northern railway as well as themselves. This expert reported in effect that the ore was as rich as any iron ore in the world, running from 68 to 72 per cent. iron; that the deposit was one mile and a quarter in length and that there was approximately 5,000,000 tons of ore in sight. The opinions of other experts previously engaged to examine the property being borne out the Union Iron Works people concluded that it was safe enough for them to go ahead. Mr. Palmer said that when he left Texada men were surveying in the vicinity of the mines for the purpose of constructing large substantial wharves to deep water. These wharves will be built at once and an extensive plant installed and between three and four hundred men engaged to get out ore. The iron would be shipped straight to San Francisco, but supplies and provisions, of course, would have to be secured at Victoria or Vancouver.

In speaking of the general prospects of Texada Island, Mr. Palmer said that the latest transfer of property was the sale of the Cotton claims on Blubber Bay. These crown granted copper claims have been held by Mr. F. Carter-Cotton for the last ten years. The surface showing of these claims is better than on any other properties on the Island, and Mr. Palmer had himself traced for 100 yards one vein which outcropped 35 or 40 feet wide and ran $35 a ton for 100 yards. The purchaser was W. H. Treat, superintendent of the Van Anda Company. The price named is $13,000, and certainly the figure was well up in the thousands.

The Van Anda people are now down over 400 feet with good showings, and up to date have treated 6,000 tons of ore, which have netted them in all values $150,000.

The ore is in limestone and found in pockets, the formation being the same all over the Island. A huge boulder of ore as big as a house would be met with running very rich then this would pinch down to three or four feet, sometimes to a stringer and then widen out very large again. The Van Anda had proved ore in place down to the 400-foot level and this had encouraged other mine owners to development work.

Mackenzie & Mann have a force of men developing their claims. Messrs. Klenschmidt & Christie, have a good showing, he had been told, on their Georgia group, and as far as his properties were concerned he was much pleased with results thus far. He and Mr. Christie of Toronto owned the claims and they were not attempting to treat any ore except that which had been thrown out in development work. They were making a mine of their property. They had decided to see the ore for themselves and success assured before their eyes before they installed a concentrating plant and took other means to secure values from the ore. They had thus far attained a depth of 200 feet and had 1,200 feet of drifts and this work had exposed 20,000 tons of ore.

They are now shipping 7,000 tons of first grade ore to the smelter and have 8,000 tons of second and third grade ore on the dump. They have forty men working and at present the pay roll of the Van Anda people and themselves is $20,000 a month, but that will not be a circumstance to what it will be some day. Mr. Palmer said the chute of ore on his property now exposed is 300 feet long and from 6 feet to 40 feet wide and they are now sinking a shaft 200 feet, before they commenced to stope out the ore. He and Mr. Christie have been engaged opening up other properties on the islands.

TAXES ON ONTARIO MINES.

Provisions of This Year's Bill Establishing New Basis for Provincial Revenue.

The Ontario government's mining bill abolishes all royalties on minerals, but provides that the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council may impose a mineral tax on the gross quantity of the ore mined. The tax will be at the following rates:

Iron, 50 cents per ton; zinc, $5 per ton, or $15 per ton of metal contents if partly treated or reduced; copper $2 per ton, or $25 if partly treated or reduced; nickel $10 per ton, or $60 if partly treated or reduced; copper and nickel ore $7 per ton, or $20 and $50 respectively per ton of metal contents if partly treated or reduced; all other ores, such rates as may be imposed by order-in-council, but not to exceed 5 per cent. of the selling prices thereof in a free market. A license, to cost $10, shall be necessary to mine any of the metals for which a license is imposed.

It is provided, however, that where such ores are smelted or treated in the Dominion of Canada, in such a way as to yield fine metals, or any form suitable for direct use in the arts without further treatment the tax may be remitted.

The tax will not apply to mines where the annual output of ore is less than 500 tons.

A further provision in reference to the tax is that by proclamation it may be remitted, or a lower rate substituted, in case of ore or minerals refined in the United Kingdom, or any British colony or dependency.

Another clause ratifies the order-in-council providing that all lands patented or leased will contain the condition that the ore be refined in Canada.

A number of further clauses contain provisions which are intended to safeguard the miners in the use of explosives, the internal working of the mines, and a complete code of signals for hoisting and descending the shaft.

All reservations of mines, ores and minerals contained in patents issued prior to July 1, 1897, are to be rescinded.—New Denver Ledge.

VANCOUVER'S NEWS BUDGET.

Railway Man's Illness—Cyclists Heavily Fined—Fire Relief—Wages on Civic Contracts.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Vancouver, May 1.—Ernest Wurtele, agent of the Great Northern railway in Vancouver, is very seriously ill with pneumonia. On Sunday the doctors told Mr. Wurtele's friends to prepare for the worst, but when his case was pronounced hopeless, the patient began to improve, and there is now hope of his recovery.

There is a scarcity of loggers in the North. Logs are in active demand, owing to the fact that nearly all the mills in the province are running full time. All the small steamers leaving here for the North are now carrying men to the logging camps.

A batch of cyclists appeared before the police magistrate to-day, charged with riding on the sidewalk. Owing to numerous bicycling accidents of late, those guilty of an infraction of the by-law governing bicycle riding are being fined $10 and costs, instead of the usual fine of $2 and costs.

Mayor Garden has received to date $300 for the Hull fire sufferers. Mayor Scott of New Westminster has wired $250 and promised more. Japanese Consul Shimezu has wired $325, a portion of which was collected among Japanese in Victoria. The subscriptions in Vancouver are chiefly in 25-cent donations. The Baptist church, however, headed one list with $100, Mr. Harvey Haddon, the English capitalist, being second on the list with $50. The Chinese Reform Association to-day wired $310 to Ottawa.

Joseph Molina, of the firm of B. Wildberg & Co., cigar manufacturers, of New Westminster, died yesterday from consumption. He was 44 years old and a native of Mexico.

On April 23 the Vancouver city council passed a resolution making it obligatory on contractors building the projected sewers in the city to pay 24 cents per hour to the men they employed, and to permit them to have a half-holiday on Saturday. Subsequently some of the aldermen figured out that this increased scale of wages, with the half-holiday each week, would cost the city $20,000 more money than if the usual scale of wages and hours were adhered to, and at a special meeting of the council an attempt was made to rescind this resolution. The vote stood five for rescinding and four against. Mayor Garden ruled that a majority vote was all that was necessary, and that the sewer resolution was rescinded, but at last night's regular meeting of the council he decided that his ruling given at the special meeting had been wrong, and expressed the opinion that it would require a two-thirds vote to rescind the resolution referred to.

A very warm discussion ensued, and as some of the aldermen who are well known labor candidates or labor supporters in the forthcoming election, talked very warmly on that side, they were accused by other aldermen of electioneering during council hours. A resolution to rescind the former resolution regarding the obligatory payment of wages to city employees, was subsequently voted upon and lost on a tie vote.

The following are the customs returns for the port of Vancouver for the month of April: Exports, $308,305; imports, $150,741. The duty collected was $80,767.27, showing a decrease from the receipts of April, 1899, of between $3,000 and $4,000, chiefly due to the falling off of raw sugar imported.

The funds of the Vancouver branch of the Red Cross Society were supplemented last night by over $100 as a result of a lecture by Mrs. Hitchcock at the city hall in aid of the society. In addition to the lecture Surgeon-Major Robinson, president of the society, delivered a short address, and Miss Mollie Glenn recited. There were also several musical numbers on the programme.

Ward meetings were held to-night and delegates were elected to the convention to be held on Wednesday evening in the interests of the Martin government. The names of Messrs. McQueen, Baxter and Macdonell figured prominently amongst suggested candidates.

Thomas Wilson, engineer at the Imperial cannery at Steveston, dropped dead this evening from heart failure.

A POPULAR RAILWAY.

Mr. Wilson Well Up With the Premier in Advocacy of Victoria & Eastern Scheme.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Vancouver, May 1.—Word was received from Kamloops to-day that in a letter written to J. A. Fulton, the independent Conservative candidate for Kamloops in the forthcoming elections, Mr. Charles Wilson, Q. C., speaking as leader of the straight Conservative party in the province, stated in effect that he believed the Victoria, Vancouver & Eastern railway a feasible one that should be built by the province, and that if he were placed at the head of the government in British Columbia, he would within 30 days put a competent corps of engineers in the field, and if the engineers pronounced the route feasible he would advise that the road be built and operated by the province.

Some prominent Conservatives deeply interested in the construction of the Victoria, Vancouver & Eastern railway who had expressed sympathy for Mr. Martin's candidature because of his promises of the construction of this line, are naturally specially interested in Mr. Wilson's position, and await a further statement from him.

Mr. G. W. Beebe, the minister of agriculture, passed through to Victoria to-day. He claims to have been greatly encouraged by his trip through the interior with Mr. Martin and Mr. Curtis, but how much reliance may be placed on this minister's estimates of public feeling may be judged from the fact that he seriously announces his party to have carried every meeting in his own district, with the exception of Lytton! All reports hitherto have agreed that the ministers got a very chilly reception at all these points which Mr. Beebe seems to think are favorable to him.

AT ISSUE WITH COLONEL.

Five Officers of a Montreal Regiment Tender Their Resignation.

Montreal, May 1.—For some time past it has been rumored that the relations between the commanding officer of the Prince of Wales Fusiliers and a few of his officers have not been of the most cordial character, and therefore there was no surprise this morning when it was learned that five of the latter had resigned their commissions and one had asked to be transferred to the reserve of officers. The names of those who resigned are: Capt. W. L. Bond, Lieut. F. L. C. Bond, Lieut. B. M. Humble, Lieut. B. A. Burke and Surgeon-Lieut. Ridley Mackenzie.

Northwest Farm and Home, Illustrated Weekly, 50 cents per year, Seattle Wash.

Gold Run and Sulphur

Will Contribute Fully Three Millions to the Klondike Total.

Speculation on the Probability of a New Find—Regina vs. Hill.

The Yukon Sun of April 10, which has just reached the outside, contains a careful analysis of the season's work on Gold Run and Sulphur creeks, each of which washes up about $1,500,000. Both of these creeks—in the Indian River district—are wide and open, quite unlike Hunker and Bonanza, being no way confined, and consequently were hard to prospect. But now that the run of gold has been located, Gold Run and Sulphur will be big gold-producers for years to come. Sulphur is a creek 23 miles long, and heads from the same dome as Dominion and Hunker, while Gold Run is a creek 12 miles long and heads from a dome lying 10 miles east of the Hunker and Dominion dome. Altogether there is close on 2,000,000 buckets (10 pans to the bucket) to be sluiced on Gold Run, and allowing 75 cents to the bucket, which is considered a fair average, the clean-up this spring will be in the neighborhood of $1,500,000. It is computed that there are about 750,000 buckets ready for sluicing on Sulphur claims below discovery, meaning $500,000 at least in result, while the wash-up of the entire creek will rather exceed $1,500,000.

It is rumored that a rich gold strike has been made somewhere on the White river, but its location is impossible to obtain. It appears that M. C. Harris, a former employee of the N. A. T. & T. Co., and party made a prospecting trip up that river during the summer of 1898. Finding nothing that season the balance of the party came out, but Harris remained and lived during the winter with the Indians. Last month he and a party with fourteen dogs and an outfit to last until next fall left for White river, giving as their reason for their return that they were going to look for copper along the headwaters of the White river, but it is generally supposed that gold and not copper is the attraction.

A meeting of the creditors of the estate of E. C. Allen and the Nugget Express was held in Dawson recently, when a statement was presented by P. G. Nash, the trustee, showing assets of about $12,500 and liabilities of $18,000. A number of persons would not file claims, and it is supposed that if all claims were filed the liabilities would amount to $30,000. A number of the creditors were of the opinion that the assets shown would not realize $2,000. P. G. Nash will now proceed to wind up the estate.

The case of Queen vs. Charles Hill, for murder, has been postponed until April 10.

THE VANCOUVER OFFICERS.

Wish Their Representative to Ask in Parliament Why Quebec Is More Favored Than This Province.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Vancouver, May 1.—The officers of the Sixth Rifles held a meeting this afternoon to consider the question of the inadequate government allowance for the new uniforms with which they were required to provide themselves owing to the change of the regiment from Artillery to Rifles. It was decided that further efforts should be made to impress upon the militia department the injustice of making only the nominal allowance of $28.90 while the officers are each nearly $300 out of pocket by the change. Mr. G. R. Maxwell, M.P., will be asked to take the matter up, as the officers will be forced as a protest to resign in a body unless the department acts up to promise and precedent. This change was forced upon the regiment, whose officers therefore have a stronger claim than that of the Sixth Battalion of Fusiliers of Montreal, recently amalgamated at its own instance with the First Battalion of Rifles, and yet these Montreal officers were allowed two-thirds the cost of their new uniforms.

VANCOUVER NEWS NOTES.

The Japanese Problem—A Detective's Praiseworthy Resolve—The Labor Candidates.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Vancouver, April 30.—United States Immigration Agent Healey left on Monday for Seattle to meet and confer with the United States immigration agents in that city in an attempt to devise a scheme to stem the tide of Japanese immigrants flooding over the border line into the United States.

The Chinese Reform Association have decided to hand the reward of $200 offered for the apprehension of the suspected murderer of Policeman Main of Steveston, to Detective Wylie, who actually captured the fleeing Chinaman. Mr. Wylie says that if he receives the reward it will only be in his possession long enough to enable him to hand it over to Alex. Main's widow.

The Trades and Labor Council of Vancouver repudiate the labor meeting held in the city hall on Friday night, which endorsed Hon. Joseph Martin's platform. Executive officers of the Trades and Labor Council state that the meeting was engineered by a faction who are undertaking to boom Mr. Martin, and that the Trades and Labor Council will choose straight independent labor candidates on Friday next, entirely free from Martin influence.

BURGLARS BREAK GAOL.

Four Men Held for Rifling Bank Escape from Sherbrooke.

Montreal, April 30.—The four burglares held at Sherbrooke charged with robbing the People's Bank of Halifax at Danville, Que., of $7,000, escaped from gaol last night. They broke from their cells, made a rope of bedclothes and dropped into the yard thirty feet below. It is supposed they had confederates outside. There is no trace of the prisoners.

FROM WASHINGTON TO ROME.

Madrid, May 1.—M. Dupuy De Lome, the former Spanish Minister at Washington, has been appointed Ambassador to Italy.

COL. OTTER REPORTS.

Trying Experiences on the March—The Chicken Catcher's Provocation Great.

Ottawa, May 1.—In a report from Lt.-Col. Otter, commanding the first Canadian contingent in South Africa, received at the militia department this morning, under date of March 18, that officer says:

"During the march, which began on February 13 and ended March 13, I cannot speak too highly of the conduct generally of the officers and men of the Royal Canadian Regiment. The march was a very trying one, the men being without tents and change of clothing."

Referring to the incident which resulted in a Canadian being court-martialled and sentenced to 56 days' imprisonment for stealing a chicken, Col. Otter says the punishment was necessary because it was a direct violation of stringent orders given by the commander-in-chief that there was to be no looting. He says this fact must have been known to all the troops. He, however, adds that the temptation to steal the chicken was great, owing to the men being put on half rations during the march.

The first Canadian contingent, which left Canada 1,039 strong, was, on the 23rd of March last, reduced to the strength of 751. There were sick in hospital and wounded 206, and one officer and 33 men were killed.

PROFITS IN PATENTS.

Men Who Have Done Well With Their Inventions.

The Banner of Dunkirk, N.Y., says that Dewitt C. Noble, of that city, who was granted a patent on a bicycle tire a few years ago, was subsequently offered $5,000 for a half interest in it, but this he declined. He says his figure is just twice that amount.

According to the Orange County (Cal.) Herald, Henry Bundy and Frank Young, were jointly granted a patent for a billiard tip which screws on to the stick, thus doing away with the troublesome gluing method. They have, says this journal, been offered $2,000 for a third interest.

It is gratifying to learn that the labors of Ottmar Mergenthaler, the inventor of the great type-setting machine, did not go unrewarded, as has been stated many times. It is stated that over $1,000,000 were turned over in cash to Mr. Mergenthaler after his machine had been fully perfected and was adopted for general use. Shortyl before his death he sold the remaining lot of stock held by him for more than $300,000. Nor do his profits end here, for the royalties which he received and which will continue to his heirs, will amount to a great deal of money.

TRACKED BY PERFUMES.

Foolish Criminals Meet Their Fate Through the Effeminacy of Their Manners.

So infinitesimally slight are some of the clues that have led to the arrest and ultimate conviction of notable criminals that one may not be surprised to learn that by the distinguishing and ineffaceable odor of certain perfumes and scents murders and thieves have ere now been brought to book for their misdemeanors.

Probably the queerest case in this connection is, says Answers, that of a notorious burglar who was arrested in Paris a few months back solely because he had a partiality for eucalyptus. The facts are these: An elderly lady awoke one night to find that the jewel box at the side of her bed was in the act of being robbed by a burly and closely masked man. The lady had the self-control to feign sleep and make a mental note of the fact that there was one distinguishing feature of the marauder. This was the strong odor of eucalyptus that pervaded his garments.

As soon as he had effected his departure, the woman rose and summoned a policeman to her assistance, by calling loudly from her bedroom window. However, her efforts were in vain, for on the arrival of the police it was found that the burglar had disappeared with the lady's jewels. Nor was the man captured for a considerable period. Then, one afternoon there called at the office of a Hebrew pawnbroker in a small way of business a gentlemanly looking man, who was desirous of pledging a few articles of jewelry.

Now the broker had been supplied with a list of the articles stolen on the occasion, and at once saw that the trinkets the present customer was intending to pledge were none of those that had been taken from the lady's jewel box. But he had read the story of the burglary, and recalling the remarks of the lady anent the odor pervading the thief's clyothes.

Now, this man's garments also smelled of the fragrant oil. One would hardly have considered this similarity such as to warrant the apprehension of the pledger, but pawnbrokers are a venturesome set of men, and the one referred to called a policeman, and gave the customer in charge. Nor did he err in doing so, for the man proved to be a notorious burglar, and, indeed, the thief of the gems. The articles he was on the point of pledging were the result of another burglary, and the chances are that the misdemeanant would have continuously evaded capture but for the fact that, being strangely frightened of the universal epidemic—influenza—he had resorted to a liberal use of eucalyptus oil.

An even odder case in point is one which hails from India. A merchant returned to his home from Calcutta took with him a small flask of spikenard, a costly perfume used in Hindoo religious rites. The unfortunate fellow never reached his home, for on the way thither he was attacked by a gang of poisoners, who killed him, and, after throwing his body into a river, carried off his goods, including the flask of scent. Months afterwards the criminals, who had come under suspicion for other crimes, received an informal visit from the police, when the strong odor of the costly scent was detected in their abode, the half empty flask being eventually unearthed beneath a stack of fuel in one of the rooms of the house. The discovery led to the execution of three members of the gang.

THE QUEEN AND IRELAND.

London, May 1.—The Daily Express says it learns that Queen Victoria has definitely decided to spend six weeks of her holidays during the summer of 1901 in Ireland.

THE EXILED BOERS.

Jamestown, St. Helena, May 1.—The British transport Bavarian has arrived here from Capetown with 1,499 Boer prisoners. All are in excellent health. They will be unloaded as quickly as possible though the wharves are blocked with stores owing to insufficient transport accommodations.

CLEAR OF THE ENEMY.

Ladysmith, April 30.—The country north of Sunday's River seems comparatively clear of Boers. Louis Botha is resuming the supreme command of the Transvaal forces.

Governor's Son For Comox.

Likely to Take Up the Candidature Abandoned by Finance Minister.

Ralph Smith at Pains to Show He Is No Follower of Mr. Martin.

If the British Columbia public had not been brought to that stage when nothing can surprise it in matters political, the electors would surely have experienced a shock when it was made known that Mr. W. W. B. McInnes, son of His Honor and first man mentioned in connection with the filling of Hon. Mr. Martin's cabinet, had decided to contest Comox—the constituency of the Finance Minister. It is as a Labor-Independent that Mr. McInnes is supposed to run, and the inward definition of his position is probably Government, he to be taken into the cabinet if it should happen by any mischance that Mr. Mounce does not defeat both him and the financial head of the government. There is an impression in Comox that Mr. Ryder may not even be a candidate, preferring to hoard his $200 in place of making a certain sacrifice by paying it in as an election deposit.

With respect to his challenged position, Mr. Ralph Smith has during his short stay in the Capital taken the trouble to set himself straight, in the following letter to the press embodying his views on political matters generally:

"Since my arrival in Victoria I have been approached concerning my political position, as an impression is current to the effect that I am a supporter of Joseph Martin. How this has arisen I do not know, except it be because of my outspoken opinion of Mr. Martin's platform at the meeting in the Nanaimo opera house, when I was nominated as a candidate for Nanaimo City. My position is clear, as it has always been. I supported the Semlin government because they endeavored to bring in legislation which, in my opinion, was favorable to the masses, and I differed from Mr. Martin because he opposed such legislation and made a contract with the enemy to burst up such a government. When I disagree with a man for such good reasons I am not prepared to allow the announcement of certain theories to affect me in his favor, although I may agree with the theories themselves; and as I say, he joined hands with the political enemy and destroyed what we considered important, and what he himself considered important, if his words mean anything, I must therefore judge him from his past actions. My position is an independent one, with sympathy for the late Semlin government, because I believe they tried to do something for the people. But, true to my position as secretary of the Miners' Union, and president of the Congress of Canada, I will support the people's interests at all times, and will trust no man because of what he says he will do, especially a man whose record is before us of having defeated good legislation."

The executive committee of the opposition ticket will meet this afternoon in the central committee rooms, Foresters' hall, Government street, at 5 o'clock. Members are requested to be punctual.

Frank Fletcher is announced as a straight Conservative candidate in the district of Nelson.

Letters to The Editor.

QUESTIONS FOR THE BIG FOUR.

Sir: It is only with the profoundest alarm that we see so many Chinese and Japs arriving in our province. What is the cause of the sudden influx of this undesirable class of immigrants. Their presence among us is not only a menace to the white laborer, and it is a very severe blow to him), but it is a question that affects all classes of our community. Laborers, merchants, lawyers, doctors and even editors do not escape the blight they bring upon our province. They come to us without invitation, with their bodily diseases, their immorality, their heathenism and their close corporation system that defy our common law, and we sit quietly by and say nothing, and our representatives and governments fail to grasp the situation, or understand the tremendous consequences upon the present and future generations of our people. The question is what can be done in the present crisis? I would suggest this among other things:

That the electors of the city and province demand the pledge from those seeking our suffrages, that they will introduce and pass the same restrictive measures (and apply the same to Japs) as are now in force in Australia, and you can put this down, Mr. Editor, that I for one will not vote for any man who will not go that length, for the salvation of his country.

BRITISHER.

REMEMBER THE VOLUNTEERS.

Sir: I have just finished reading another account of the work done by the Canadians—first contingent—in South Africa. I wonder how many of us who attended the "Farewell" at the Drill Hall that memorable Sunday evening, really thought that the boys we were then cheering so wildly would ever be called upon for the terribly hard but glorious work that made Cronje surrender. I venture to say that very few of us anticipated anything of the sort, and, what is more, very few of the boys themselves thought of it either. What a scene that was: "A thin red line" composed of two score of Victoria's best and bravest boys waiting to be called, each in his turn, to mount that platform to be stormed by the cheers of thousands of their comrades and fellow-citizens and to receive a purse, the value of which to them did not lie in what it contained but in the knowledge that it was a spontaneous offering of goodwill and God-speed from citizens who were proud of them and who could find no other way to show them that there was something tugging at their heart-strings which must find expression in some form. It was a glorious night.

And that march to the boat; the madly-cheering multitude, the soul-inspiring strains of "Soldiers of the Queen," the silent grief of mothers, sisters and brothers who were parting with their boys, perhaps for the last time and in the midst of all the "Good-bye, old man," of the comrades as they shook hands for the last time. It was surely a wonderful night.

And what a scene was that upon that fatal yet glorious morning when for the first time in the history of the Empire Canadian boys laid down their lives on a foreign battlefield in defence of Britain's grand old flag. Yes, the scene has changed; it is not night now but morning. It is a line of khaki-clad forms now, not serge-clad, but it is composed of the same boys whose faces were so familiar on these streets of ours so recently and they no more shrink from the deadly work before them than they shrank from mounting that platform a few short weeks before. Tired, footsore, half-drowned, hungry and thirsty, these brave boys, surely and determinedly, now creeping, now crawling and now running, take up position after position nearer the enemy's trenches in the face of a hail-storm of murderous bullets. There they lie. There are now no thousands of cheering citizens, no pleasurable anticipation of a long and interesting journey over land and sea, to the theatre of stirring events; nothing but to lie as they are under a scorching South African sun, hungry, yet without food, almost mad with thirst, yet without water, waiting for those merciless Boer bullets falling like hail all around them until their own individual messenger of death shall arrive or darkness intervene. Their Captain is down; their favorite Sergeant and comrade is down; men are falling and dying all about them; as they talk one with another of that Sunday night not so long ago, one stumbles and falls, and yet so determined are they to do honor to their regiment and to their Canadian home and to their duty to their Queen, their country and their flag that the Boer General afterwards said that his men dare not even show their heads above their own trenches for fear of bullets from these same Victoria boys, but held up their rifles above their heads and fired at random. If we were proud of our boys that Sunday evening, what are we now?

Sir, it is only when we place these two scenes before our minds that we can fully realize what our boys have done and how worthy they were of that send-off. I would therefore ask that in the coming celebration the Victoria contingent in South Africa be not forgotten. The public will have an opportunity to remember them in a practical way in the theatre on the evening of the 23rd, but I would suggest to the officers and men of the Fifth Regiment that the thousands of visitors to Victoria should have the glorious conduct of our boys brought before them, and perhaps no more fitting way in which to do this would be for the regiment to arrange one or more floats for the procession illustrating some incident of the fight at Paardeberg Drift. We have shewn our sorrow at the death of the brave fellows who fell; let us also show our appreciation of the glorious way in which they fell and of the honor won by those who survive.

I know nothing about getting up floats or tableaux, but I am sure that some of the officers of the "Fifth" could easily devise one or two, and perhaps a very appropriate one could be arranged representing two of our boys as stretcher-bearers carrying Captain Arnold to the rear after two of their comrades had fallen in performing the same duty. Another one might represent Lord Roberts congratulating Sergeant Northcott and his squad of twenty men in the trenches on the conduct of his comrades in the battle.

I am convinced that if some such floats could be arranged and escorted by the Fifth Regiment they would afford the opportunity for an even wilder outburst of enthusiasm than that manifested on that Sunday evening; a demonstration in which any Victorian will be only too proud to join.

HERBERT CUTHBERT.

CONCERNING ROYALTY.

How a German Commoner Tries the Emperor's Patience — The Spanish Pretender.

The German Emperor's temper has been severely tried at intervals during the last few years. Herr Wesendonck—a commoner, but very rich, who married some years ago a Countess von Haake, then lady-in-waiting to Empress Frederich—is the cause of the trouble. Herr Wesendonck, who is a man of parts, a student of philosophy, and well known in Northern Germany as a patron of art and music, was on terms of personal intimacy with Frederich III. before the latter's accession to the throne, and consequently enjoyed, during his short reign, free access to the imperial court. He easily became popular in certain court circles, in particular among the partizans of the reigning sovereign. It was generally understood that as soon as the invalid Kaiser, then at San Remo, could again be brought to the German capital, Herr Wesendonck would be among the first to have a title bestowed on him. But Frederich did not live to return to Berlin, and Wesendonck's chances of nobility died with him. The present Emperor, thanks to Bismarck, felt little sympathy with the views and plans of his father, and was particularly strict and narrow in his ideas on the nobility question. Presence at court functions was likewise denied to Wesendonck, and in short along with others who have been particularly friendly to the deceased Kaiser, he tasted of the living Kaiser's dislike.

He took his revenge, however, in an unexpected manner. In his private villa, situated in the west end quarter of Berlin, he started a small weekly paper, which is edited, printed and published there, and is entitled Court Correspondence, being devoted mainly to gossip about the Emperor. His every move is commented upon, many a clever epigram and subtle innuendo being made at his expense, and scenes from his private life, past and present, are laid bare with irony, not to say evident relish, yet avoiding with all possible care the dangers of lese majeste. In German society the paper is come to be known as the court bomb. Its principal contributors are believed to include several princes and attaches to the royal family itself. Much of its information could be obtained in no other way. The limit of Emperor William's patience has been reached on more than one occasion, but his police have been unable to find sufficient grounds to warrant the arrest of the troublesome Herr Wesendonck and the suppression of the sarcastic paper.

Don Carlos, the famous pretender, was highly indignant to read in Vienna papers lately that during the course of the trial with his daughter he had stoutly denied his Spanish nationality, and claimed to be of Austrian extraction. Such a mistake was of too vital importance for an aspirant to the Bourbon throne to let slip, and after no end of blustering on his part and the active assistance of a couple of the "faithful," he succeeded in having the following rectification appear in the leading papers: "Banished from his country, Don Carlos refused to submit to a code promulgated by an authority not recognized by him, for he admits as tribunal only the grand marechal of the court of his imperial and royal apostolic majesty. Furthermore, he has never considered himself Austrian, but has remained Spanish, heart and soul."

If you once try Carter's Little Liver Pills for sick headache, biliousness or constipation, you will never be without them. They are purely vegetable, small and easy to take. Dont forget this.

Commissions In Diplomacy

New York Paper Works Up Sensation Over Suggested Purchase of Islands.

Says Danish West Indies Transaction Failed Through Demand for Rake-Off.

New York, May 1.—The Times to-day prints a long article of a startling character, in which it professes to have found the motive which urged Secretary of War Root at the Grant dinner of last week to refer to the possibility of the United States being forced to go to war to maintain the Monroe doctrine. It is said that the facts which led up to Mr. Root's remarks are contained in an official report just submitted to the Danish government by Capt. W. Von Christmas. The captain was the special envoy of his government to negotiate the sale of the islands to the United States, and his report, which has been put in the hands of Mr. Hoerring, the prime minister and minister of finance, states that the failure of the negotiations is due to the interference of Henry H. Rogers, one of the directors of the Standard Oil Co.

Washington, May 1.—The state department authorizes the declaration that it has never recognized any individual in connection with the proposed acquisition by the United States of the lands of the Danish West Indies; that it has no knowledge that any private person has ever interposed in the negotiations on that subject, and finally that the negotiations have never been influenced directly or indirectly by unofficial persons. This statement is called forth by the publication of the details of what is represented to be an attempt on the part of persons connected with the Standard Oil Co. to force the Danish government to pay them a commissionon the sale of the islands to the United States government The department officials say that of course they are not competent to affirm or deny the truth of the allegations as to what passed between any such parties and the Danish government officials, but for themselves, they are able to enter the broadest denial of any connection or knowledge of any intervention. The Secretary of State is said not to know Rogers, one of the persons named and represented to be connected with the Standard Oil Co., who initiated the attempt to intervene for the commission.

The facts of the case so far as the state department is concerned and is aware, are as follows: Close upon the publication of rumors to the effects that the Danish government was about to sell the islands to the United States last fall, a Danish army officer named Capt. Christmas appeared in Washington and sought an interview with the Secretary of State. Secretary Hay had heard through the press of his coming to Washington and that he was charged with a mission relative to the sale of the Danish West Indian islands. Capt. Christmas, however, told a different story when he saw the Secretary. He said that while he was an officer of the Danish government he had absolutely no authority to deal with the United States government respecting these islands. But he had for years been of the opinion that it would be of the greatest benefit to the islands of Denmark to make the transfer to the United States, and had come to Washington not to make any proposition, but to offer to the state department the benefit of his personal knowledge and experience, having made the conditions in the islands subject of many years' special study. Secretary Hay listened with great interest to Capt. Christmas' representations, and thanking him for his tender, promised to call upon him whenever there should be need for his services. Then the Secretary, acting upon the intimation that the Danish government might be thinking of selling, sent instructions to Mr. White, the United States secretary of the embassy at London, to go to Copenhagen and investigate. Mr. White performed his task with ability, and his report to the state department is all there is on the files respecting the Danish islands of recent date or in fact within the past five years. Touching the conclusions reported by Mr. White, the state department officials say nothing.

Berlin, May 1.—The interpretation placed by certain American newspapers upon the remarks of Mr. Elihu Root at the banquet of the Grant Monument Association regarding the possibility of fighting for the Monroe doctrine, attracts considerable attention. A high German official who was interviewed to-day on the subject, said: "Nobody in Germany contemplates any exactions in South America. This the United States knows, as well as also that there has been regular emigration from Germany to Brazil for years, although of late it has diminished. The American newspaper interpretation of Mr. Root's words, as directed against Germany, seems to be addressed to the imperialists in the United States as a campaign utterance.

OTTAWA FIRE RELIEF.

Legislature Authorizes Corporation to Issue Debentures to Cover Their Grant.

Toronto, April 30.—The legislature prorogued this afternoon after putting through three readings of the bill authorizing the city of Ottawa to issue debentures for $100,000 for the relief of the fire sufferers.

A Wonderful Medicine.
BEECHAM'S PILLS
For Bilious and Nervous Disorders, such as Wind and Pain in the Stomach, Sick Headache, Giddiness, Fulness and Swelling after meals, Dizziness and Drowsiness, Cold Chills, Flushings of Heat, Loss of Appetite, Shortness of Breath, Costiveness, Blotches on the Skin, Disturbed Sleep, Frightful Dreams, and all Nervous and Trembling Sensations, etc. These ailments all arise from a disordered or abused condition of the stomach and liver.
Beecham's Pills will quickly restore Females to complete health. They promptly remove any obstruction or irregularity of [illegible]. For a Weak Stomach, Impaired [illegible] ...ick Headache, Disordered [illegible] they act like magic—a few dos[illegible] wonders upon the Vital Organs; St[illegible] ...ing the Muscular System, restoring the long lost Complexion, bringing back the keen edge of Appetite, and arousing with the Rosebud of Health the whole physical energy of the human frame. For throwing off fevers they are specially renowned. These are "facts" admitted by thousands, in all classes of society, and one of the best guarantees to the Nervous and Debilitated is that Beecham's Pills have the Largest Sale of any Patent Medicine in the World. This has been achieved Without the publication of testimonials.
Beecham's Pills have for many years been the popular family medicine wherever the English language is spoken, and they now stand without a rival.
at all Druggists.

The Colonist.

THURSDAY, MAY 3, 1900.

THE WAR.

Our view of the very indefinite war news is that the correspondents—that is, not those in Africa but those a great deal nearer home, are doing a lot of able-bodied guessing. Take yesterday afternoon's news. It consisted of the statement that Broadwood's cavalry had been pushed on to Houtnek, that Gen. Hamilton had reached Houtnek, thereby securing the road from Bloemfontein to Thaba N'chu, and that the Canadians had been engaged. This is certainly a very meagre lot of information; but it indicates that a general movement is in progress, the ultimate effect of which will be to force the enemy northward. This will also be the effect of the operations along the Free State frontier north of Kimberley.

The Lorenzo Marques despatch printed this morning, which tells of the fortification of Lydenburg, is extremely interesting, for if it is correct it indicates a change in what was understood to be the intention of the enemy, namely to make the last stand at Pretoria. Lydenburg is east and a little north of Pretoria. It lies in a very hilly country. A line of railway runs up from Koomipoort in the general direction of Lydenburg. Koomipoort is the pass in the Drakensberg range through which the Delagoa Bay railway enters the Transvaal. The Netherlands railway, which it is said the enemy will destroy, is the line from Delagoa Bay to Pretoria. If the enemy can retreat to the northeastern corner of the Transvaal with a strong force, he can make a stubborn resistance, but we hope that before he reaches there the fight will be taken out of him.

ORIENTAL IMMIGRATION.

The Colonist has received several strongly worded letters on the subject of Oriental immigration, but as the publication of them at this particular juncture would be of no special service we have decided not to print them, but rather to convey and endorse in these columns the opinions expressed. These are that steps must be taken to prevent the province being overrun by Japanese. We are not very sure what the legislature can do in the matter. Its powers in this regard are exceedingly limited. We do not favor the re-enactment of exclusion laws, when we know they will be disallowed, at least not before every other method of checking the evil has been exhausted. As a matter of fact very little has been done as yet by the legislature. Certain acts have been passed, but the Colonist pointed out at the time that they were wholly inadequate for the object aimed at, for the reason that they would either be declared unconstitutional by the courts or be disallowed on the ground that they interfered with the Imperial policy. We take some credit to ourselves for this, although at the time it exposed us to attacks on the ground that we favored Mongolian immigration, and some of our estimable contemporaries have taken pleasure in styling the Colonist a Mongolian organ. The only difference between this paper and those who put the legislation referred to through the house was that the Colonist rightly read the law and they did not. We agreed that restrictions should be put upon this objectionable immigration, but at the same time pointed out that the steps taken would result in failure. We recall that when the Coal Mines Regulation Act was first tested, the Colonist said that the law would be declared ultra vires because the rights enjoyed by aliens in Canada was a matter coming under the jurisdiction of the parliament of Canada, and so the court held. We urged the house not to jeopardize the anti-Chinese legislation by including Japanese in its provisions, because we pointed out that the policy of the Imperial government was to cultivate friendly relations with Japan for commercial and other reasons. We mention these matters now, because it is proposed by Mr. Martin to re-enact the disallowed laws and in some sort of way bulldoze the Imperial government into receding from its position. Our position is quite the reverse of this. The strength of the case of this province lies in its reasonableness. If this case is properly presented to the Imperial government, we may take it for granted that it will form a subject of correspondence with the Japanese government and that a conclusion satisfactory to all parties will be reached. Surely it is reasonable for us as British subjects to try this plan before resorting to steps that are certain to accomplish nothing for some time at least, and may cause serious friction. In short, we prefer to see this Oriental question, which is a very serious question, dealt with from the standpoint of patriotic statesmanship, and not from that of demagogic office-seeking.

MR. WILSON, TOO.

Mr. Charles Wilson also proposes that he will build a railway from the Coast to Kootenay and operate it at the public expense, if he is returned to power. If anything were necessary to settle Mr. Wilson's claim to be a public leader this has done it. He cannot even claim to have credit for originating this colossal piece of humbug. He has simply followed in the footsteps of that arch demagogue, Mr. Joseph Martin. Mr. Martin's vagaries are bad enough in his hands; they are infinitely worse in those of an imitator.

There is not the slightest reason to suppose that either Mr. Wilson or Mr. Martin will have the privilege of prescribing the policy for the next house, and so we are not likely to see British Columbia bankrupted by any such scheme; but it is always timely to protest against anything that it plainly intended simply as a bait to catch unwary voters. We enter the strongest kind of protest against any attempt being made to deceive the people of the Fraser valley by the pretence that the province will construct a railway from the Coast into Kootenay. The thing is nonsensical in the extreme. Moreover, if it could be carried out, every other enterprise in the province would have to wait until this had been completed and proved profitable. Mr. Martin said he had a Great Unknown who was ready to put up any amount of money to further his scheme. Has Mr. Wilson another?

RAIL TO THE NORTH.

The Dawson Sun of March 27 refers to one of the Colonist's articles in regard to the proposal to authorize the construction of additional lines of railway from the Yukon to the sea at Lynn Canal, and hopes that the province of British Columbia will discontenance anything of the kind. The Sun thinks it highly desirable when another line is built, it shall be so located that never under any circumstances that can arise will it be subject to vexatious interference on the part of the United States authorities. The argument is a good one; but it is not the only one, nor is it the chief one. We do not ourselves fancy that the United States authorities will at any time be disposed to hamper the transportation of Canadian produce through Skagway, but that goods will continue to move forward with the same smoothness as they do now; but what we think is of very much greater importance is that it is desirable that the next road into the Yukon valley shall be distinctively a Canadian line and that its business shall build up a Canadian city and not one in territory owned by a foreign power. We see no immediate prospect that the coast of Lynn Canal, which is Canada's by any reasonable construction of the treaty, will become ours in fact, and therefore our future railway policy ought to deal with the Yukon valley and the sea coast as though Lynn Canal had passed out of our hands for all time. There is already one road that is building up a town under the jurisdiction of the United States, and by reason of its being so our steamers are deprived of their due share of the trade of the northern country. They cannot load at a port in the United States for Skagway, and therefore a very large portion of the trade of our own country and most of the passengers are handled by United States vessels. Give us a railway from a British Columbia port and this will no longer be possible.

But there is another reason why a second railway should not be built from the Yukon valley to the Coast at Lynn Canal. We all wish to see an all-Canadian line constructed; but if two lines are built, tapping the country which this much desired line will depend upon for business, its construction will be indefinitely postponed. For these reasons we hope to see the next British Columbia legislature give effect to the declared policy of the Laurier ministry and sanction the construction of no more railways from the Yukon valley, which will have their Coast termini in territory controlled by the United States.

THAT $4,000 WARRANT.

The special $4,000 warrant issued in order to enable the Finance Minister to make some sort of excuse for asking the voters of Comox to vote for him, is attracting a great deal of attention. Yesterday we reprinted an editorial from the News-Advertiser on the subject and today we reproduce one from the Province. The World also refers to the matter, but contents itself with charging the Colonist with inconsistency, because it alleges that this paper defended, or at least did not condemn, the action of the Davie government in issuing special warrants to "proceed with the extension and building of roads, trails and bridges" in the Fraser valley in 1894 in places where no damage had been done by the floods of that year. It is so easy for an outsider to make a mistake in a matter of this kind that we referred the statement of our contemporary to Mr. Turner, who was Finance Minister in 1894, and that gentleman said that we might deny the World's statement and give him as authority for saying that no expenditures were made on the occasion referred to, not already authorized by vote of the legislature, except those that were strictly within the class of emergencies. This will settle the matter, for although the World has refused to retract a charge made against the Colonist of deliberate falsification, though we demonstrated that it was in error, it will hardly go on record as contradicting a statement made by Mr. Turner upon a subject in regard to which he has special knowledge.

We are not surprised that the issuing of this warrant has caused a great deal of hostile comment. Indeed if it did not we should despair of the future of the province. If people would condone a transaction of this kind, there is no reason why they should not condone any sort of violation of law. The issuing of that warrant is the grossest breach of constitutional law conceivable, and if it can be tolerated, there is practically no limit to the power of the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council over the money in the treasury. The theory of our system of government is that supplies must be voted by the people. The crown has no right to take money out of the treasury unless it has been authorized to do so by express vote of the representatives of the people. Mr. Martin has taken the control of the purse strings out of the hands of the people's representatives and assumed it himself. This brings us to the following extraordinary state of things: A government, composed of men who have never been endorsed by the people, and whose premier has been expressly condemned by the representatives of the people, can draw out of the treasury any amount of money it sees fit and for any conceivable purpose; for the moment the plain provisions of the law are disregarded and money is drawn for matters which by no possibility can be described as emergencies, there ceases to remain in the representatives of the people any control whatever of the exchequer, and a Lieutenant-Governor, if he sees fit, can appoint his creatures to office, having dismissed those having the confidence of the people, and he and they together may make ducks and drakes of the people's money. The World says that the Colonist is "making much of a fuss" over this matter. We have not done so as yet, but we propose to. If the people of British Columbia are alive to their interests, no better reason can be presented to them for driving Mr. Martin and his colleagues out of office.

We are quite prepared to believe that Mr. Martin will attempt to defend this expenditure. Mr. Martin's views of the powers of the government under the emergency clause are extremely wide. He held at one time that they extended far enough to authorize a government to carry on affairs for several months without a vote of the house, and the advice which it is to be presumed he gave in regard to this Comox warrant is very positive proof that he still entertains that view. His views of the power of the executive are extremely reactionary. For precedents we must go back to the time of Charles I. Mr. Martin calls himself a Liberal, but he is in fact an Absolutist. He has no respect whatever for popular rights, as is shown by the fact that he has advised the Lieutenant-Governor that the latter has authority to put his hands into the public treasury at his mere whim. Whether or not anything similar to what has been done in Comox has been transacted in other parts of the province, we do not know. Whether the limit of illegal expenditure is $4,000 or $40,000 or $4,000,000 we are, of course, unable to tell, but in principle it may as well be one as the other. If the smaller sum can be justified, the largest that can be suggested can also be.

Thus we see that one by one the principles of our government are being violated.

In 1898 we saw a government dismissed, while there was yet reason to believe it was supported by a majority of the representatives of the people. We said then that this gross usurpation of authority would drag many others in its train.

This year we have seen the phophecy proved true. We have seen a premier called into office although he had absolutely no parliamentary support; we have seen that premier permitted to hold office without at once appealing to his constituents to ratify his act; we have seen him surround himself with men who have never been chosen by the people as their representatives.

We have seen the solemn promise made by the Lieutenant-Governor in a prorogation speech violated; the legislature prorogued without passing supply; a deliberate determination to administer affairs without popular sanction; and last, but not least, the ignoring of the representatives of the people in the matter of expenditure.

There is nothing else left of popular government. If the people condone these outrages, they turn the wheels of government back for more than two centuries. The Colonist has been told that it wastes time and space in urging upon the people the consideration of constitutional questions. If this Comox special warrant does not arouse every intelligent voter to an appreciation of the danger ahead, unless constitutional government can be restored, we shall be compelled reluctantly to admit that it is hopeless to talk to the people of British Columbia of the rights won for them by their fathers through long struggles and at the risk of peril to their liberty and their lives.

A B. C. ROBESPIERRE.

The playwright put these words into the mouth of Robespierre;

"No. Tell your master it will not do.
France wants no puling infants.
France wants a strong man.
France wants me."

This is the language, quoted from memory, supposed to have been addressed by the great French revolutionist to the confidential emissary of Charles Fox. A young man by the name of McInnes seems to have heard a whisper to the same effect, and he has come forward in response to the call. The difference between the Robespierre of France and our home-made article is that the former died when he lost his head, while the latter has lost his head but not died, although his political demise is not far distant.

It is difficult to take this young man very seriously. He has a certain amount of talent. Indeed, if a political balance wheel could be attached to him he would not be without his uses. But at present he is ungoverned and ungovernable. He was elected to represent the constituency of Vancouver in the House of Commons in 1896. In 1898 he became impressed with the idea that his services were needed in the local house, and on May 26 of that year he addressed the electors in a pronunciamento from which we make some extracts:

It is therefore with feelings of regret that I announce to you my intention of resigning my Dominion seat, for the purpose of contesting a constituency in the approaching provincial elections. I have arrived at this determination only after mature deliberation and upon the urgent solicitation of many friends, who consider that at this critical time in the development of our province a larger field of practical usefulness presents itself in the local legislature.

In this new political sphere my course will be as in the past and dictated alone by what appears to be in the most permanent interests of the people. I therefore enter the provincial campaign free of any alliance with either party represented in the provincial legislature; but in the fullest accord with a large body of electors throughout the province, who believe that the existing conditions and immediate possibilities of our country require the introduction into our public life of an element, less actuated by motives of party success and expediency; that will guard our future and shape our legislation more to the public advantage, along well defined principles of progress and equity.

We have reached a crisis in the history of our province. The eyes of the world focus upon us. Our wonderful resources and magnificent opportunities excite universal attention and envy. The times impose tremendous responsibilities. If the awakening in industry, exploration and development is happily aided by timely legislation, the possibilities are unlimited and bewildering to contemplate; should, however, mediocrity, timidity or greed influence our legislation at this time of glorious sunrise, then the headlines of the future are equally certain. A swift carnival of plunder would swing for a day, amid ruinous and unaccountable folly, and draw to a close in commercial chaos and a long night of black disappointment.

Our province calls for its best men; it needs their best service. Let us therefore recognize it to be our supreme duty at this critical hour to cast aside the miserable rags of an imported partyism, and as British Columbians, united and confident, grasp our opportunities with wisdom, vigor and hope. Above all should we concentrate our efforts towards securing from all parties, classes and sections, without small or selfish distinction, men strong in hope, sound in principle and safe in action, wherewith to form the strongest possible legislature and the most capable and honest administration. Thus only can our unparalleled heritage be safely and fairly administered and made the basis of an early, full and permanent prosperity.

I will shortly take occasion to visit you and enlarge upon the above briefly stated views. Before closing, permit me to again express my deepest appreciation of the confidence with which you have honored and encouraged me, and to assure you that, as a British Columbian, it will continue to be my highest duty—whether in a public or private capacity—to do all I can to increase the general prosperity and heighten the prestige of our imperial province.

Grave as was the crisis in 1898, and notwithstanding the fo— and other cussing to which the province was being subjected to the eyes of the world, Mr. McInnes concluded to let someone else bear "the tremendous responsibilities," and failed utterly to interject himself into the fray to retard the approach of the "swift carnival of plunder." The province kept on calling for "its best men," and this particular best man, instead of boldly plunging into the gulf, like that Roman fellow that we read about in history, hied away to Ottawa, forgot all about the "magnificent opportunities" and left us to struggle along amid "mediocrity," "greed," "timidity," "ruinous and unaccountable folly," and a lot of other things.

Last July Mr. McInnes was again moved by the spirit of resignation, but this time he was only going to make a solemn protest against the manner in which Sir Wilfrid Laurier had treated the Mongolian question. He made his declaration in the most public way, with sufficient oratorical fireworks to ignite half the coal mines on Vancouver Island. Did he resign? Well, not to any conspicuous extent. Now he is on the warpath again. This time the object of his divine rage is Mr. Dunsmuir. Mr. Dunsmuir is to be exterminated. There is some doubt in the mind of Mr. McInnes whether Mr. Dunsmuir shall be allowed any standing room in this world or the next. He has only one hope, only one aspiration, namely to pulverize Mr. Dunsmuir. The exact nature of Mr. Dunsmuir's offence is not at present known, but it is doubtless something very terrible, for Mr. McInnes is prepared to contest all and sundry constituencies in order to make the work of extermination swift and doubly sure.

"The bewildering possibilities," "the glorious sunrise," "the commercial chaos," "the black disappointment," "the unparalleled heritage," and all the other verbal gymnastics of the 1898 pronunciamento have, like the "cloud-capt towers" and other things that Shakespeare tells of, faded from vision, and nothing remains but the spectacle of little Jack the Giant-Killer, clad in the impenetrable mail of his self-conceit, marching forth to slay the Awful Ogre. But he has not yet resigned from the House of Commons.

AN ACKNOWLEDGMENT.

We think, that the Colonist may assume the responsibility of speaking for the people of Victoria and extend an expression of thanks to the ladies and gentlemen from Nanaimo, who contributed so much to the success of the production of the "Messiah." They have placed Victoria under a debt of gratitude, which is pleasant to bear, but must be repaid in the same generous way in which the obligation has been bestowed. It is also probable that Nanaimo will this year more than ever assist this city in making the Queen's Birthday celebration a success. Victorians must not forget this, and when the opportunity arises they must take advantage of it to make a fitting return.

THE PROTESTANT ORPHANAGE.

We print this morning the twenty-seventh annual report of the Protestant Orphans' Home. This institution is doing excellent work. Fifty-seven children, who would otherwise be subject to extremely uncertain conditions of life, if not actual destitution are being cared for at the home, and each year additions are made to the family, while others are sent out into the world all the better for their stay at the institution. His Worship Mayor Hayward, president of the Orphanage, draws attention to the necessity for increasing legislation conferring on the officers of the home certain powers in regard to the adoption of children. He seems to make out a strong case. His reference to the report of the Grand Jury shows the necessity for those who are able to contribute to the support of the institution.

The report of the president of the ladies' committee is very interesting, and shows how much good is being accomplished by those who generously contribute their time and substance towards promoting the welfare and happiness of these young people.

While the orphanage is prosperous and doing good work, it is needless to say that its efficiency would be enhanced if those responsible for its management had more funds at their disposal. We commend the institution as one deserving of the very heartiest support of the community and express the hope that the list of contributions will this year be larger than ever.

THE BAND OF THE FIFTH.

We take great pleasure in expressing, so far as we are able to speak, the appreciation which the citizens feel of the part taken, during the amusement season now drawing to a close, by Mr. Finn and the musicians who are associated with him in the band of the Fifth Regiment. Their public-spirited efforts culminated in the concert of Sunday night, which was a very happy thought, promptly conceived and most effectively carried out.

It is also pleasant to be able to record that the people of Victoria responded nobly to the appeal made to them by the press last autumn, and extended to the band a very liberal patronage. This musical organization is so closely in touch with the amusements of the people that very much depends upon its prosperity.

It is announced that Mr. W. W. B. McInnes is going to contest Comox, which is the constituency in which it has been supposed Mr. Ryder would be a candidate. No one expected for a moment that Mr. Ryder would be elected, and it is now open to doubt whether he will even offer as a candidate anywhere. There is no constituency in the province where he could possibly hope to save his deposit. Therefore we are likely to be treated to the spectacle of a minister being appointed, exercising the duties of his office, and never going before the people for election. Mr. McInnes by becoming a candidate in Comox will contribute to the defeat of the Martin government, that is if Mr. Ryder remains in it, and the defeat of the Martin government means very serious results for Mr. McInnes' father, the Lieutenant-Governor. Hence we believe there is something behind his resolve to run in Comox, and it is that he will, before the election, enter the government as finance minister. If he does he will simply precipitate the overthrow of Mr. Martin and his government. The people of this province will not tolerate the appointment by the Lieutenant-Governor of his son to a cabinet position under existing circumstances. There will go up such a storm of protest from every section that no government could stand up against it.

The Yukon is opening surprisingly early this year. We should not be surprised to learn at any day that navigation has begun on some parts of the river. One of the most extraordinary things about Northern countries is the way in which they improve as habitations for mankind as soon as they become settled.

The Nelson Tribune is quite mistaken in its diagnosis of the political situation in Victoria. There is no alliance or anything else approaching one between the four opposition candidates nominated here and the Wilson party. Its observations upon what it alleges are Mr. Dunsmuir's political objects are nonsense and nothing else.

Mr. John Bryden is again in the field in North Nanaimo. Mr. Bryden has served that constituency long and well. He is an active and efficient member of the legislature, taking no great part in debates, but making his influence felt in committee work and other ways. He is an excellent representative and the house would be distinctly the poorer if he were absent. We look with confidence for his re-election.

Rumor has it that Mr. J. C. Brown, of New Westminster, is to enter the government as minister of finance, vice Mr. Ryder, who is to be allowed to "fade away and gradually die" politically. Whether Mr. Brown is or is not to take the position, it seems quite certain that a change will be made very soon. The Times says the change will take place this week, but as yet our contemporary is hardly entitled to be considered as speaking with authority for Mr. Martin.

The Times seeks to establish a parallel between the Comox special warrant and the special warrant which the Lieutenant-Governor declined to sign at the request of Mr. Turner, but afterwards signed for Mr. Semlin, to pay for certain expenditures in Cassiar. No parallel exists, for a real emergency existed in Cassiar. Hundreds, and perhaps thousands, of men were trying to make their way to Lake Teslin and the proposed expenditure was designed to save property and possibly life. This was an actual emergency, and the Lieutenant-Governor was advised by two sets of ministers that it was such. In the Comox case no one pretends that anything in the nature of an emergency exists.

Bicyclists, young or old, should carry a bottle of Pain-Killer in their saddle bags. It cures cuts and wounds with wonderful quickness. Avoid substitutes, there is but one Pain-Killer, Perry Davis'. 25c. and 50c.

It is now said that Mr. W. W. B. McInnes will contest North Nanaimo, and it is also alleged that there will be yet another candidate in the field. The despatches do not make it very clear whether he is to run as a supporter or opponent of the government, but it is alleged that whichever position he may take he will be opposed by a candidate nominated by a section of the North Nanaimo Liberals. If he comes out as a Martinite, the anti-Martin Liberals will put a man up against him; while if he comes out as an anti-Martinite, the Martin faction will nominate a candidate.

We assume that when an Ottawa despatch says "Appraisers place the loss by fire at Ottawa at $3,912,000," the reference is to property wholly or in part covered by insurance.

There seems to be something serious unexplained behind the Welland Canal dynamite outrage; that is, if it is true that the frontier on the St. Clair river is to be guarded. The St. Clair is the outlet of Lake Huron.

There is every prospect that the school boys of Victoria will do their share towards making the Queen's Birthday celebration a success. The several Principals will co-operate with the citizens' committee, and there is no doubt about their efforts being loyally seconded by the boys.

The Khaki society women are not receiving many compliments these days. There is a certain smart set of women in London, who have so little to do that they are eternally getting in the way. The professional nurse is a glory to humanity; but the sensation-hunting amateur is an unmitigated nuisance.

SOUTH AFRICA'S SEASONS.

The Climatic Advantages Enjoyed by Residents at the Cape.

In reading accounts of what is now transpiring at the seat of war, it is wise always to bear in mind that in the southern hemisphere the seasons are reversed from those we are accustomed to in Europe. Thus the summer extends from October to March, and the winter from April to September.

Although the days are hot, very hot, scorchingly so in fact, the nights are almost invariably beautifully cool. This in one way is a pleasant and refreshing change, and yet in another it is not unattended with danger to health, inasmuch as the variation in the thermometer between midday and midnight may be as much as 50 degrees. If therefore one is not well protected at night from the great difference in temperature, there is great risk of chill. It is principally for this reason that the kind gifts from friends at home to our soldiers abroad of warm caps, mufflers, hoods and the like will be so welcome. After the exertion of a long day's marching or fighting, when the whole body gets thoroughly wearied and wearied, it becomes peculiarly susceptible to cold, and it is then that, if telepathy were feasible, the donors of warm clothing would be overwhelmed by the grateful thoughts of those who are sleeping out on the bare veldt, under the blue velvet sky, beneath the Southern Cross.

The continent of South Africa is so huge that all sorts of climates are found therein, from the tropical moist heat of some parts of Natal, to the rarefied, dry, invigorating air of the Transvaal high veldt. Summer time in Durban is very oppressive. The air seems clammy with moisture, the sun shines with treble burning glass power. At night it is a little better, and it requires carefully closed mosquito curtains to keep out the marauding blood-sucking insects. Then the cicada cheeps shrilly and persistently from the trees; the frogs croak, "Coax! Coax!" and the night air seems full of life.

Further north, in Natal, where our troops are now fighting, the air is much drier, the elevation being so much greater. The days are very hot, but the temperature falls very rapidly at night. Both during the winter and summer the prevailing wind on the coast is from the southwest. They say that it blows from that direction six times to once from any other.

The rainfall at Durban is nearly 40 inches; that at Pietermaritzburg about 38, and practically the whole of it falls during the summer months. The winter—June, July, August—is nearly always dry.

The thunderstorms are frequent and severe. The meteorologists report that there is an average of nearly 100 every year. The lightning is far more brilliant and dangerous than ever experienced in England. Seared patches of grass many yards wide are often seen where the electric fluid has struck and set the grass alight. Half a dozen head of cattle are frequently killed by one flash of lightning.

In the northern Cape Colony, where our soldiers are also occupied, the climate is similar, but decidedly cooler. The wind sweeps across the great arid plain of the Karoo desert, and brings with it vast volumes of dust.

At frequent intervals great dust storms arise, and obscure everything with a hazy veil almost as thick as a London fog. The dust is blown about in tiny sharp particles, which cut the skin, and are very painful. The force of the wind

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Mail.

N IN HIGH PLACES.

ws-Advertiser.)

article from the Victoria
disclose a state of things
circles in Victoria, which,
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answer to this question. It
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Ryder himself is traversing
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ular assistance it is done, de-
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on account of this expendi-

t waste any words in condem-
premier who, as the attorney-
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ith a public work which has
uthorized by the legislature and
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through unforeseen and uncon-
cumstances, could not be com-
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lapsed. Now—we say it with
regret—His Honor has thrown
esitancy and scruples to the
is a party to an action which
e ignorant is both illegal in it-
ne with a corrupt motive.
ed, time that the electors should
selves and put an end to a con-
ings as disgraceful to the prov-
is injurious to the public inter-
hich is only possible because the
Governor—in defiance of advice
ominion government—has seen
t as his advisers men who have
y from the people.

NGTON AS A WAR SPY.

Duke of Wellington is said to
a considerable portion of the
eding the battle of Waterloo
n the enemy's position; he con-
his on more than one occasion.
said, and the story was gener-
ed in the French army, that
eluding the outposts and sen-
lly went through the French
eard the coming battle discussed
rominent officers. But, while it
true, this story lacks the stamp
ity, and was never, so far as is
nfirmed by the hero himself or
ho should have known.
little or no doubt, however,
ke took his life into his hands
upon the French position from
close quarters, and that he went
alone and on foot a great part
, and thus he possessed himself
tion that proved of very material
im. The Duke himself admitted
pent the better part of an hour
hiding in a dark ditch, spying
enemy, when he was supposed
rity of his staff to be studying
for the battle. More than once
at, during the Peninsular war,
had taken up the work of spies,
n leave anything to any one
s he trusted less than his own.

e increase in the sale of the D.
thol Plaster evidences the fact
useful for all rheumatic pains,
nd lame back pains in the sides,
es & Lawrence Co., Ltd manu-

Changes in The Cabinet

Report That the Finance Figurehead Is Giving Place to Mr. Brown.

Mr. Mills and the Victoria Ticket—The Citizens Meeting To-Night.

The first big guns in the campaign at the Capital for a restoration of stable government and provincial prosperity are to be fired to-night at the A. O. U. W. hall, when the opposition candidates—Messrs. Turner, Helmcken, McPhillips and Hall—will address the citizens and tell them plainly why they do not endorse the platform put forward by Premier Martin, and what they suggest should be substituted in its place in order to promote the interests of British Columbia. Each of the candidates will address the meeting, and as there may possibly be some others who will ask questions, it will be necessary to commence the proceedings very sharp on time. The executive of the opposition campaign committee held a business meeting yesterday, when all arrangements for the big opening meeting were reported complete by the special committee in charge; another committee at the same time reporting that suitable accommodation had been secured in Victoria West for the workers in that district. The exact location of the western suburb ward room will be duly announced in the course of the next few days.

* * *

Rumors once again are filling up the space between items of definite news in matters political, and in relation thereto the name of Mr. J. C. Brown of New Westminster figures most conspicuously—to that extent that friends of the government already intimate a possibility that he will replace Hon. Mr. Ryder by the latter's resignation of the portfolio of finance even before the present week is dead. Even with the glamor of his portfolio it has always been the general belief that Hon. Mr. Ryder stood little chance of winning Comox for the administration, and that his selection was merely temporary—until the Premier could induce some other gentleman of more recognized ability and definite political standing to accept cabinet honors.

Mr. W. W. B. McInnes, who had been announced as a candidate in Comox, it appears has also been successful in securing a nomination in North Nanaimo—since he could not induce the electors of South Nanaimo to give him a running chance without his repudiation of Martinism. Whether he will contest North Nanaimo or Comox would now appear, therefore, to be merely a question with him as to where he will have the better chance.

* * *

In the city of Victoria the only new announcement is to the effect that Mr. S. Perry Mills has hopes of being made president of the council, as a preliminary to going upon the government ticket in the city in the place of Ald. Beckwith. Of course this is a matter on which announcements are not yet in order—but sufficient has already been said on it to keep the eye of the city electors upon Mr. Mills for the next few days.

* * *

In offering himself as a "province-before-party" candidate in Nelson, John Houston of that city endorses the principle of the eight-hour law, and submits an individual platform in which are found the following planks:

"Government ownership of railways is no more a theory than municipal ownership of public utilities. Both have been tried and found to work for the public good when capably and honestly managed; but in making a commencement in government ownership of railways in this province, a section should be selected in which the government would have a free hand, and not in sections where competition would be met.

"Courts have been established in which individuals and corporations are compelled to settle disputes, however trivial, disputes that seldom have any bearing on the general prosperity of the community in which the disputants reside; and courts should be established for the compulsory settlement of disputes between the representatives of capital and labor, disputes that too often are far-reaching in their damaging effects on the general prosperity of whole communities and districts."

NO LABOR CANDIDATE.

Trades and Labor Council Rescind Their Former Resolution.

The Victoria Trades and Labor Council at their meeting last evening decided to rescind their former motion to place a labor candidate in the field in Victoria, and passed the following resolution:

"The Victoria Trades and Labor Council having decided to take no independent action in the coming provincial elections, desires it to be emphatically understood that no person or persons representing themselves in any light whatsoever has or have any authority to speak for this body on any hustings or in any political way, sense or manner whatever."

The council has made an offer to Nanaimo to run an excursion to that city on Labor Day if Nanaimo "calls off" its Queen's Birthday celebration.

A VANCOUVER TICKET.

Mr. Macpherson Returns to His Old Love—Quarrelling at the Martin Convention.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Vancouver, May 2.—Premier Martin, Robt. Macpherson, ex-Ald. H. B. Gilmour and Ald. McQueen were nominated to-night at the convention for the city of Vancouver in the government interest. There were fifty delegates present, comprising a large representation of the former Deadman's Island committee. Chas. Woodward, Ald. Baxter, Robt. Kelly D. G. Macdonell were put up for nomination besides the four mentioned.

When Mr. Macpherson's names was mentioned as a possible candidate, his nomination was objected to until his views were learned. A hack brought him in, post-haste. He declered that he would support Premier Martin and his platform, reserving the right to criticize the actions of the Semlin government while Mr. Martin was still a member of it. He mentioned particularly the eight-hour law and the granting of certain government lands. Mr. Martin's nomination had been made unanimous, and after this effusion by Macpherson a motion was introduced on the same lines. It was objected to, however, and was not put. The session was stormy at several periods and the convention did not break up until long after midnight.

IMPORTATION OF ROSES.

They May Come In as Greenhouse Plants Free From San Jose Scale Act Restrictions.

The following circular letter is published for general information by request of the Board of Horticulture.

Department of Agriculture,
Ottawa, April 10th, 1900.

Sir:—I am instructed by the Hon. Minister of Agriculture to inform you that representations have been made to him by several of the leading florists of the Dominion that it is desirable to import into Canada certain new and valuable varieties of roses which are propagated and grown entirely under glass, but the importation of which has been prohibited up to the present under the San Jose Scale Act.

The Minister of Agriculture has examined into this matter carefully, and finds that there is no danger of importing San Jose Scale upon roses imported in leaf and in a growing condition, which have been propogated under glass.

You are therefore informed that the Minister of Customs on his advice has issued instructions to the Collectors of Customs at the various ports that such roses may be imported from the United States as "Greenhouse Plants."

Yours obediently

(Signed,) J. FLETCHER.

LOCAL NEWS.

Charged With Theft.—A young man named Bouget was up in the provincial police court yesterday on the charge of breaking into the barn of Mr. Morrisey at Cedar Hill and stealing a quantity of hay. The case was remanded until Saturday.

Wilson-Hunt.—Ven. Archdeacon Scriven returned yesterday morning from Alert Bay, where a few days ago he solemnized the marriage of Mr. Wilson, manager of the Alert Bay Cannery, and Miss L. Hunt, sister of Mrs. S. A. Spencer. Mr. and Mrs. Wilson will reside at Alert Bay.

Will Be Here.—H. M. S. Warspite, flagship of the North Pacific station, is expected to return to Esquimalt between May 10 and 12 from her Southern cruise, giving the crew lots of time to prepare for the races at the Gorge on the 24th. H. M. S. Leander has already returned from her trip up the East Coast.

Methodist Conference.—The Methodist clergy of the city leave this morning for Nanaimo to attend the quarterly meeting of the district. Next week they go to New Westminster to attend the provincial conference. Immediately after the conference Rev. Mr. Speer will go to Alaska and the Upper Yukon, returning early in June and taking his departure for Toronto.

Poem Appreciated.—Capt. Clive-Phillips Wolley has received the following letter from Lord Dufferin, dated Clandeboye, Ireland, April 11: "I have to thank you for your kind thoughtfulness in sending me your beautiful poem. It is really a very fine and spirited composition, and I thank you most warmly upon having expressed such lofty and patriotic thoughts in such noble words. Again thanking you, believe me, sincerely yours, Dufferin and Ava."

Reminiscence of '49.—At the golden jubilee of Sherith Israel at the Jewish synagogue, San Francisco, on Sunday, April 22, Rabbi Nieto delivered an oration on "Fifty Years of Activity," and in his remarks relating to the early history of the congregation referred to a well known resident of Victoria, Lewis Lewis, who officiated at the first meeting of Israelites in San Francisco in 1849. There is a lengthy report of the proceedings in the Chronicle.

Appreciation Grows.—The attendance at the biograph war pictures in the drill hall last evening was considerably larger than on the opening night, for the reason no doubt that those who had been out on Tuesday had made it a point to inform their friends how great a treat they had missed. Not only were the war pictures superb last evening—a lesson in patriotism and in moving photographic art combined—but Miss Beverley Robinson sang in delightful voice, and her several selections gave unqualified pleasure to both the analytically critical and the lovers of music for music's sake. Mr. Smiley's recitations were as usual apropos and excellently done, and the evening's entertainment as a whole gave keen pleasure to every individual of the many hundreds in the hall. To-day there will be both matinee and evening performances, and two shows a day will continue to be the rule until the close of the week—the public demanding this concession, although it involves a heavy demand upon the entertainers.

Sudden Death.—The many friends in Victoria of Mr. D. McKinnon, the West Coast prospector and miner, were greatly shocked when news was received that that gentleman had died suddenly at Alberni of heart disease. The shock is all the greater as it is but a few days since Mr. McKinnon was in Victoria, apparently in the best of health. To the deceased is due much of the credit for proving to the world the mining possibilities of the West Coast of Vancouver Island, and particularly Clayoquot. He came to British Columbia from Franklyn, Wash., where he had been working in the coal mines. After spending several years in the mines around Nanaimo he took to the hills on the West Coast and located many properties, in which he interested capital. He was considered one of the coming wealthy men of British Columbia, and in fact was already realizing the reward of several years of labor and hardship, when death intervened. Mr. McKinnon had about completed arrangements for the outfitting of a schooner to take a party to Cape Nome. His death is a material loss to Vancouver Island, as he had the confidence of a number of capitalists, whom he interested in the Island mines.

Lady Medway has brought to the notice of the Queen the facts connected with the life of Mrs. Barbara Moon, of Rolvenden, the only woman alive who was present at the battle of Waterloo, and who is now 90 years of age. Her Majesty has accepted Mrs. Moon's photograph, and has sent her a contribution "to assist in making her comfortable during this somewhat trying season of the year."

The Metropolitan Tabernacle is raising rapidly from its ruins, and the pastor and deacons hope to celebrate both the late Mr. Spurgeon's birthday and the reopening of the famous place of worship simultaneously in the third week of September. Only £4,000 is now needed to complete the sum required for building; and the deacons are pledged to raise the amount before the opening.

Strange Case Of Poisoning

Death of John Murton at Point Comfort on Monday Night.

Police and Coroner Go Up to Hold the Cnstomary Investigation.

Coroner Dr. E. C. Hart, Dr. Herman Robertson, Provincial Sergeant Atkins, Constable Hodgson and one or two residents of that portion of Mayne island on which the Point Comfort hotel is situated, went up to Plumper Pass from Victoria by the Yosemite yesterday morning for the purpose of thoroughly investigating the sudden death during Monday night of John Murton, a son of the late Sheriff Murton, of Hamilton, Ont., and a nephew of Mr. J. R. Seymour, the Vancouver druggist. It was expected that the post mortem examination and the inquest would have been disposed of in time for the medical men and police officers to return to the city by the steamer Iroquois and Victoria & Sidney train last evening, but their plans in this respect were fated to disappointment; and in consequence the public must wait until to-day to learn in detail the result of their inquiries as to whether the death had been the result of accident, suicidal determination, or foulest crime.

The evidence at present available in this city and Vancouver would appear to indicate merely unfortunate mischance, but other circumstances are gossiped about in connection with the case which call for the fullest and most thorough investigation before any final and definite conclusion is arrived at.

Mr. Murton was a young man of 28, well known both in this city and in Vancouver. Latterly he had been a boarder at the house of Mr. Adolf Freimuth, in the Terminal City, so close and esteemed a friend that he was regarded almost as a member of the family circle. When Mrs. Freimuth entered into a business partnership with Mr. W. H. Mawdsley and reopened the Point Comfort hotel, he was engaged as clerk and bar-keeper, and it was in this dual capacity that he was engaged at the time of his very sudden decease.

The report was current in Vancouver yesterday and telegraphed to the evening paper here that the body when found on Tuesday morning was hacked and distorted in a manner indicative of violent crime. That this is wholly incorrect is borne out by disinterested and absolutely reliable witnesses, among whom may be included Mr. Hallam and Miss Josephine Stanton, two of the principals of the Boston Lyric Opera Co. It so happened that they were not required for a performance on Monday evening, and so were able with Col. Thompson's consent, to accept an invitation from Mr. Mawdsley—an old friend—to spend the off day with him at the Point.

There, as Mr. Hallam told the Colonist last evening, he saw Mr. Murton during the day—indeed he was behind the bar sometime in the neighborhood of 1:30, and complained that a tooth was giving him considerable annoyance. He might have had a drink or two, but he was not at all under the influence of liquor, and spoke of going out to shoot some pigeons for the visitors' dinner.

After a late luncheon, Mr. Hallam and Mr. Mawdsley went down to the water for a little fishing, and at about 4 o'clock they were recalled by a message from the house, and found Mr. Murton in his room, insensible and breathing heavily. He never afterwards recovered consciousness. Mrs. Freimuth told how she had been passing his room and heard the occupant gasping. She entered and found him insensible, summoning help immediately.

Mr. Mawdsley and others worked over the sufferer all night, medical aid being eleven miles away, but sometime about 2 o'clock Murton ceased to breathe. The supposition was that he had taken an overdose of cocaine—to the use of which he had confessed himself addicted—in conjunction with several glasses of whiskey. On the doctor's arrival at 10 o'clock Tuesday morning, he pronounced the unfortunate young man dead for some hours, although the body strangely retained its warmth, and curiously rapid decomposition occasioned some remark.

All that remained to be done was to communicate with the authorities, and this was done immediately—the party from Victoria going up by the Yosemite as a result.

Although the coroner did not return home as anticipated last evening, news of the inquest and its result in some way reached Vancouver, for a wire from the Colonist's correspondent there states that a verdict of death from natural causes, through uremic poisoning, was returned by the jury of residents.

Some time ago one of the Kensington Vestry laborers found a curious looking stone in a sewer. A friend advised him to have it valued, and he was told at the pawnbrokers that it was a pure diamond worth between £35 and £40. He at once forwarded it to the Kensington Vestry, detailing the circumstances. The authorities finding that by law the diamond was their property, decided they could not return it to the owner, and are going to sell it. The proceeds, with the exception of £5 for the finder, will be handed over to the fund for the widows and orphans.

A Mat and Rug Maker Speaks of DIAMOND DYES

She Would Not Use Other Makes.

The best and most successful makers of home-made carpets, mats and floor rugs use the Diamond Dyes to color their rags, yarns and warps.

Every home dyer knows well that the Diamond Dyes give the fastest and brightest colors, and are the simplest dyes to use.

Mrs. A. Y. Field, Bathurst street, Toronto, says: "During the last ten years I have made many mats and rugs from wool and cotton rags and coarse yarns. The dyeing of the rags and yarns I have always done with Diamond Dyes, as they give the richest and strongest colors. I am fully convinced that the Diamond Dyes are the safest and cheapest for all who make carpets, mats and rugs. I would not use any other kind of dyes."

A PROSPEROUS COMPANY.

Close on Hundred Per Cent. Dividend on One Year's Operations in Northern Development.

The adjourned annual general meeting of the British Columbia Development Association, Limited, was held in London on April 5. The following report is taken from the Mining World and Engineering Record:

The adjourned ordinary general meeting of this company was held at Winchester House on Thursday. Mr. R. Byron Johnson (chairman of the company) presided. Mr. Walter Tofnsend (secretary) read the notice of meeting.

Mr. Walter Townsend (secretary) read the notice of meeting.

THE "GIST" OF A GOOD REPORT.

The Chairman: Gentlemen, I presume that we may take the report and accounts which have been laid before you as read, and, I hope, pleasantly read. The report is a full one, and should, I think, be so satisfactory to every shareholder that I fear I may be trying to paint the lily by adding any poor words of mine to it. On acount of that fear I shall be very brief in my remarks. Broadly speaking, the gist of the report and accounts is that the directors recommend the payment of a further dividend for the year 1899 of 75 per cent. upon the company's capital, one-half of which further dividend will be payable to the preference shareholders, and the other half to the founders' shareholders, making a total cash distribution for the year 1899 of no less than 95 per cent. on the company's capital, and leaving a sum of £633 5s 6d to be carried forward. Cheers.) I think there are many of us who regret (as I certainly do) that out of such a large profit there is no possibility under our articles of association, except at the expense of one particular class of shareholders, of applying a considerable sum to reserve; but those articles were drawn up by the original promoters at every point in favor of the 100 founders' shares, of which they retained 65 for their services. It therefore only remains for us all to take things as they exist, and to hope that in the present prosperous condition of the company and its affairs the two classes of shareholders with such very divergent and opposing interests may be able to sink their differences. Your board have endeavored in their recommendation to study with all fairness the rights of both parties, and that recommendation has been upheld in all respects by the auditors. We know that after a dividend of 10 per cent. to the preference shareholders the founders' shareholders are entitled to one-half of the profits of the particular year. On the other hand, the question of how profits are to be determined is a very difficult one, where speculative assets are concerned, and due care must be taken that the company's capital subscribed by the preference shareholders is left fully represented by the assets of the company held in hand. The whole subject is one fraught with great difficulties, and while the company remains on its present basis reasonable compromises on both sides are the only means available of securing its continued prosperity. There is no doubt that the time has now arrived when this system of compromises might, to the great advantage of the company generally, be settled once and for all by its reconstitution with only one class of shareholders having no opposing interests between themselves.

FOUNDERS' SHARES.

No company, however prosperous, burdened with founders' shares is in a happy position. Founders' shares themselves are unmarketable things, and their very existence depreciates the value of the preference shares. No other proof of this could be afforded than by the present low price of the latter shares in the market, considering the dividends and prospects of this company. Perhaps, in these few words, I have been somewhat diverging from the business of this meeting, and I will close this branch of my subject by a strong appeal to both classes of shareholders to endeavor to come to some reasonable arrangement, like men of business. Towards such a consummation the board will gladly lend their time and services if there is any response from either side to this appeal. Reverting to the report, I am glad to be able to inform you that we have now purchased on very reasonable terms the interest of Capt. Moore in the wharf at Skagway, and thereby eliminated a source of continuous friction. This arrangement has been effected largely through the efforts of the general managers, both here and at Skagway, and is in a great measure an outcome of Mr. Townsend's visit to Skagway in the company's interests.

FURTHER INTERESTS.

The local management is working on the best of terms with the railway company and the principal shippers, so that with our now increased holding we have every reason to hope for a large and continuous income. Last year, after making provision for a suspense capital account of £400, and paying debts amounting to over £800 back expenses from the inception of the company, this company received nearly £800 as its net share of six months' working; and should no unforeseen contingencies occur during the present year, a sum of £3,000 may be fairly expected. The company have also purchased, under the advice of Mr. Bickmore, one of your directors, who has recently visited the property, "The 111-Mile House," on the road from Ashcroft to Cariboo, with nearly 1,800 acres of land and a considerable head of stock, besides buildings, stores, etc. This property holds a most commanding position, being at the junction of the road leading to the Horsefly district, where many large hydraulic mining properties are being worked. Its cost was £3,000. We are advised that a fresh hotel should be erected at a cost of £1,500, and that with this improvement a return of from 10 to 15 per cent. upon the total expenditure may be counted upon. The late owner and his wife remain in the management at a very moderate salary, and they have left £600 in the business. Although this purchase in itself yields a good rate of interest, it is rather to the latent value of the property, from its unique position on the road, and from the fact that before very long a railway is almost bound to be made, that the directors had regard in adopting Mr. Bickmore's advice. The frequent vast increase in the value of land in a good position in a new country I need hardly dilate upon. As stated in the report, the company have also other projects of an important nature submitted to them for consideration as promoters. These projects are not of a nature to involve the expenditure of capital, but if they are found worthy of acceptance they will bring in considerable profit to the shareholders. Turning to the profit and loss account, it will be seen that the London and Victoria expenses are some £500 less than those of the previous year, and in all probability the Victoria expenses will be still further diminished in the future. I now pass to the two concluding paragraphs of the report, which deal with the re-election of the auditors and a director, and as I take these to be uncontentious business I will, with your permission, treat these as the first business of the meeting. I do not think I need say anything in favor of Messrs. C. F. Kemp, Sons & Co., who were unanimously elected by you at the last meeting, and whose reputation is too well established to require any eulogy from me. I propose that they be reelected as auditors for the current year at a remuneration of 40 guineas, and I will ask that this proposal be seconded by some influential and independent shareholder.

Mr. Magner: I shall be pleased to second the motion.

The Chairman: I will put the resolution to the meeting, that Messrs. C. F. Kemp, Sons & Co., be re-elected auditors for the current year at a remuneration of 40 guineas.

The motion was carried unanimously.

THE VICTORIA CROSS.

The Decoration is Worth 40,000 Times Its Intrinsic Value.

It is one of the many fascinating peculiarities of the Victoria Cross that, although it is intrinsically one of the most valueless of things, it is not only one of the most coveted possessions life has to offer, but it actually represent a money value more out of proportion to its cost than almost anything on earth.

Intrinsically it is a fragment of old gun metal fashioned into a plain Maltese cross, less than an inch and a half square, and weighing a shade under an ounce, while its value in material is a little over a penny. Actually it represents, quite apart from all the glory associated with it, a life pension of a commuted value of at least £200.

Thus, in actual money the simple cross of bronze is as valuable as fifty-seven crosses of gold of equal weight; and its intrinsic value of less than a penny farthing is multiplied more than 40,000 times. It would seem also, that there is some mystic virtue in this cross "for valor" which confers on its wearers length of days; for it is a curious fact that V.C. men, having once dared Death and escaped his clutches, like pensioners live longer than their fellows. Of the men who won the cross in the far-away fifties no fewer than sixty-four are living to-day; so that, of all the living men who are entitled to wear the cross, more than two out of every five have lived to wear it for more than forty years.

Even of the band of sixty-two Crimean heroes who were decorated by the Queen in Hyde Park on the 26th of June, 1857, twenty-four are still living to recall with pride the picture of our fair young Queen in all the glory of crimson tunic and plumes or red and white, and mounted on a beautiful white horse, and the gracious words with which she pinned the emblem of their valor on their breasts.

The Indian Mutiny raised a remarkable crop of crosses, and of these thirty-nine are actually being worn to-day—forty-two years after they were won.

It is peculiarly interesting, perhaps, to know that the man who won the first of the 440 crosses that have been awarded is still living in the peaceful atmosphere of West Wensington; and that, although forty-six years have slipped away since he established his claim to the cross, he is still young enough and daring enough to repeat the heroism that won it.

This first cross was won on the 21st of June, 1854, in the Baltic Sea, by an act of reckless daring which no succeeding hero has eclipsed, and it was won by a boy who was only just emerging from his teens. During the bombardment of Bomarsund a shell from one of the Russian guns fell on the quarter-deck of the Hecla, almost at the very feet of a number of men under the command of a young midshipman, Charles Davis Lucas. The men were seized with consternation, as the shell was expected to explode in an instant. It was no time for panic or even hesitation, and young Lucas immediately took up the shell in his hands and hurled it over the ship's side. Two seconds later and the gallant middie would have been blown to pieces, for the shell exploded before it reached the water.

The second cross was also won in the Baltic by a young naval lieutenant (Bythesea), who is now, like Midshipman Lucas, an admiral.

The cross has been won three times by negroes, one of whom, Seaman Hall, is still living to wear it. Hall performed prodigies of valor at the Relief of Lucknow, when he was in charge of one of the guns of the naval brigade. Private S. Hodge, another black hero, showed equal daring at the storming of Tubabe Colong, on the River Gambie; and Corporal Schiess, another negro, was among the bravest of the brave in the inferno of Rorke's Drift twenty-one years ago.

That army doctors have at least their share of valor is proved by the striking fact that, of every twelve living V.C.'s, one is a surgeon, no fewer than thirteen doctors having the right to wear the cross for valor; while one man, the Rev. J. W. Adams, furnishes the rare spectacle of a surplice decorated with the bronze cross. It is far from improbable that "Parson Adams" may have a clerical colleague in "Parson Robertson," the gallant chaplain of the Highlanders, whose bravery at Modder River and Magersfontein has won the applause of every man in Methuen's army.

It is easy to understand something of the esteem in which our cross is held when we consider that, since its institution, only ten crosses have been awarded each year on an average. Of the iron cross of Prussia, which corresponds to our Victoria Cross, no fewer than 40,000 were distributed at the close of the Franco-German war; while at the battle of Gettysburg an entire regiment (the 27th Regiment of Maine) was decorated with the American "Medal of Honor."—Tit-Bits.

PROVED IT BY ALGEBRA

Statements True in Detail a Lie in the Aggregate.

"Strange," said a talkative man, "but four statements, each perfectly true in detail, made a whopping big lie in the aggregate. It happened like this: I went into a jewelery store yesterday and asked to see a cheap watch. The clerk showed me a tin clad affair at $1.50. It came in a small pasteboard box, on the lid of which I noticed the statement that it was the equal of any $5 watch in the world.

"'Have you a watch at $5?' I asked. 'Yes, sir,' said the clerk, and he handed me a very neat timepiece cased in oxidized steel. 'You will find that just as good as anything you can get for five times the amount,' he remarked, opening the back and showing me the works. 'It looks all right,' I said, 'but on second thought I believe I'd like something better.' 'Well, here are some filled case watches,' he replied, 'that we sell with a thirty year guarantee. The case can't be distinguished from solid gold. It is a watch we consider very cheap at $25.'

"I pried open the back case and out dropped a little disc of paper, on which the thirty-year guarantee was printed. 'This watch is as well made in every particular,' it said in preamble, 'as the average $100 chronometer.' 'What kind of a chronometer can a man get for $100?' I asked. 'The best in the world,' replied the clerk, enthusiastically. 'Here is one now. You observe its thinness and general elegance. As far as the movement is concerned it is simply impossible to produce anything better.'

"'All right,' I said; 'I'll invest on that assurance,' and I picked up the tinclad machine and laid down $1.50. 'I have your word,' I added, 'that this is the best watch on earth.' 'No, you haven't!' he exclaimed; 'I didn't say anything of the kind!' 'Don't you claim that it is as good as any $5 watch goin?' I asked, pointing to the statement on the box lid. 'Yes—but ——' 'And you just assured me,' I continued, 'that the $5 watch was the equal of anything at five times the price. That gets us to $25, and the filled case guarantee states specifically that the $25 watch is as well made as a $100 chronometer. Here you have it in algebra,' and I pulled out a pencil and made this simple calculation: 'A-B, B-C, C-D, D-X, therefore A-X. See?' But he couldn't see it. He stuck out firmly that each of the four assertions was gospel truth, but he wouldn't stand for their logical conclusion.

"I told him he ought to be arrested for asking $100 for a watch which I could prove, by his own admissions, was no better than one valued at $1.50. That tangled his brains in a hard knot, and I escaped while we was still dazed."—N.Y. Telegraph.

THE SEEDLESS ORANGE.

Interesting History of Its Propagation in Southern California.

"The first seedless orange trees were apparently freaks of nature," writes a California correspondent of the New York Sun. "Their counterparts have never been found. In the summer of 1872 William F. Judson, United States consul at Bahia, Brazil, heard an account from natives of a few trees in the swamps on the north bank of the Amazon some sixty miles inland that bore oranges without seeds. He was of scientific bent and consul that knew his business. He had heard of the starting of orange groves in Florida, and he believed that seedless orange trees were well worth experimenting with there. So he sent a native up the river to cut some of the friut. When the native returned the consul was delighted with the specimens. Forthwith he sent six of the orange tree shoots, carefully packed in wet moss and clay, to the agricultural department at Washington for propagation. The trees did not excite as much attention in the department as the enthusiastic consul had expected. Two of the shoots, which were no bigger than horse wips, died from lack of care in the department grounds, and the others were almost forgotten in a few months. In the winter of 1873 Mrs. Horatio Tibbetts, a native of Maine, was visiting the family of her cousin, Gen. Benjamin F. Butler, then a congressman from Massachusetts. Her husband had recently removed from Boston to Los Angeles, Cal., and was about to pre-empt a tract of government land in the San Bernardino valley. The scheme was an uncertain one, but anyhow he intended to grow semi-tropical fruits there. He asked Mrs. Tibbetts to get from General Butler an introduction at the agricultural department. She was then to ask for specimens of fruits and shrubs suitable for experimental propagation in southern California. Among other things Mrs. Tibbetts got from the departmental grounds the four surviving orange tree shoots from Brazil. The trees reached Mr. Tibbetts safely at Riverside, Cal., a week later and were immediately planted. That was in December, 1873. One of the shoots died from neglect and another was broken and chewed up by a cow.

"Five years passed and the two surviving trees came into bearing. In the winter of 1878-79 they bore sixteen oranges, the first seedless oranges ever grown in North America. The specimens were carried about southern California and shown to all ranchmen and fruit growers. There were many who doubted whether the trees would annually bear such royal specimens of orange culture. Nearly every one believed that the fruit would become coarse and tough in a few years more. So the second crop was awaited with curiosity among the neighbors. There were about a box of oranges in the second yield, and they were even better than those of the first crop. The fame of the Tibbetts seedless oranges went far and wide in southern California. People who were growing the old-fashioned oranges travelled hundreds of miles in wagons to see the trees. Still there believed that such a freak asa seedless believed that such a frea kas a seedless fruit could ever be propagated into an established industry.

"Mr. Tibbetts was sure that there was a fortune in his new variety of oranges. For two years he experimented with propagating trees from shoots and cuttings from his two seedless orange trees. But all his attempts were failures. Finally he hit upon the scheme of budding from the seedless navel trees upon seedling trees. Experiments along that line were successful. It was found that a bud taken from one of Tibbetts' two navel orange treets and grafted into the bark of a seedling trees would grow to be a limb which bore seedless navel oranges. Then Mr. Tibbetts grew tiny seedling orange trees, just as had been done by orange growers for ages, and budded into the trunk of each little tree several navel orange buds. When the buds had become branches of the trees, he cut away all the original or seedling branches, leaving only the navel orange branches to bear fruit. In this way he easily created navel orange trees, and the problem of growing seedless oranges was solved.

"The planting of groves of seedless orange trees propagated from buds from the two original orange trees on the Tibbetts place began in earnest throughout southern California in the winter of 1882. In the following year the demand for buds from the Tibbetts trees was so large that a dozen buds sold frequently for $5, and some growers, desirous of getting navel orange buds of genuine quality, paid $1 each for buds. In 1884 the two Tibbetts trees furnished buds that sold for $1,500, and a tall fence was built about them to keep people from stealing buds. A year or two later the two orange trees that had been propagated from the Tibbetts trees began to bear, and they themselves furnished teps of thousands of navel buds as good as those from the two original trees. Then the first naval orange groves began to bear fruit, and from that time the boom in navel orange groves has continued. No one plants seedling orange trees nowadays, and tens of thousands of seedling trees have been budded into navel orange trees. The average returns from seedling orange groves in southern California during the last ten years have been less than $100 an acre while there are many navel orange groves in this region that have yielded net profits of $250 and $300 an acre a year.

"The two trees from which have come directly and indirectly all the navel oranges in the world are still on the old Tibbetts ranch in Riverside. Since Mr. Tibbetts received the shoots from the agricultural department and began propagating the first seedless oranges, Riverside has grown from a hamlet of less than thirty American residents to a beautiful prosperous city of 14,000 population, with an assessed valuation of $8,275,000. It is the greatest orange producing locality in the world. Some 16,000 acres of land is devoted to orange growing. The average annual shipments of oranges from Riverside are 1,600,000 boxes, valued at $2,100,000. All this has come from the introduction of Tibbetts' seedless navel oranges, and just now the Riverside Press and the leading citizens of Riverside are urging that the two trees should be removed to the public park and there surrounded by an iron fence, so that the interesting history of the seedless navel orange may be the better preserved in another generation.

"Is that young man in the parlor with Maude still?" asked her father, suddenly looking up from his paper. "Very still," replied her mother.—Chicago Evening Post.

THE FEAR OF HUMBUG

Prevents Many People From Trying a Good Medicine.

Stomach troubles are so common and in most cases so obstinate to cure that people are apt to look with suspicion on any remedy claiming to be a radical, permanent cure for dyspepsia and indigestion. Many such pride themselves on their acuteness in never being humbugged, especially in medicines.

This fear of being humbugged can be carried too far, so far, in fact, that many people suffer for years with weak digestion rather than risk a little time and money in faithfully testing the claims made of a preparation so reliable and universally used as Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets.

Now Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets are vastly different in one important respect from ordinary proprietary medicines, for the reason that they are not a secret patent medicine; no secret is made of their ingredients, but analysis shows them to contain the natural digestive ferments, pure aseptic pepsin, the digestive acids, Golden Seal, bismuth, hydrastis and nux. They are not cathartic, neither do they act powerfully on any organ, but they cure indigestion on the common-sense plan of digesting the food eaten thoroughly before it has time to ferment, sour and cause the mischief. This is the only secret of their success.

Cathartic pills never have and never can cure indigestion and stomach troubles, because they act entirely on the bowels, whereas the whole trouble is really in the stomach.

Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets taken after meals digest the food. That is all there is to it. Food not digested or half digested is poison, as it creates gas, acidity, headaches, palpitation of the heart, loss of flesh and appetite, and many other troubles which are often called by some other name.

MARRIED.

HEAL—FOLEY—H. W. Heal, of Lake district, to Eugene M. Foley, of Victoria, at Bishop's Palace, Yates street, by Rev. Father Althoff, on 30th April.

FOWLER — WOLFENDEN — At Christ Church Cathedral, on 30th April, by the Rev. Canon Beanlands, Percy Britten, youngest son of the late J. R. Fowler, of South Norwood, Surrey, England, to Kate Cooley, fourth daughter of Lieut.-Col. Wolfenden, of Victoria, B.C.

DIED.

KERR—At the family residence, Admirals road, Esquimalt, B. C., on the 25th inst. Esther, the beloved wife of Mr. Henry Kerr, a native of County Down, Ireland aged 43 years.

RICHARDS—At Vancouver, B. C., on the 26th inst., Ellen Chaffey, relict of the late Hon. A. N. Richards, in her seventy-first year.

ROLSTON—On the 22nd inst., in California, after a long illness, Hilda Stanley, beloved daubhter of Fleet Surgeon P. W. Rolston, R.N. (retired), justice of the peace of Clayoquot, British Columbia; aged 27 years.

THE COLONIST.

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Falling Back On Brown

Martin Men Circulate Report of Westminster Politician's Conversion.

Candidates in Victoria City Announce Series of Public Addresses.

Renewal of the rumors that Mr. J. C. Brown of New Westminster has cast in his lot with Hon. Joseph Martin and as a reward will be taken into his Cabinet—if by any mischance for the country Hon. Mr. Martin has aught to say for the cabinet after the 9th of June—furnishes the most interesting feature of yesterday's political gossip, many of "Winchester's" old associates in politics sharing the opinion that a compact of some sort has been made between him and the government leader.

* * *

From Esquimalt district the news is received that a convention of resident farmers will be held toward the close of the present week to nominate candidates who shall speak for the farmers—regardless for party allegiance not being the chief element for consideration. Mr. Hayward will, of course, be one of the two nominees, according to the programme.

* * *

Mr. Donald Fraser, the Martinite so early in the field in Esquimalt, is beginning to find that he no longer entertains the electors. If the thermometer does not take a sudden and erratic change upward with him, he stands in extreme danger of perishing from frost. His last meeting was at Otter Point, on Saturday, and it was an audience of three that he addressed his remarks.

* * *

In North Victoria Mr. J. J. White, of Sidney, has come forward with an endorsation of the Martin platform, and announces himself as out to defeat Mr. Booth; while in Cowichan, friends of Mr. Herd are endeavoring to induce him to offer himself as a sacrifice on the Martin altar.

* * *

In North Nanaimo a requisition has been presented to Mr. John Bryden, bearing two hundred signatures—and these of the solid people of the district—asking him to be again a candidate, in which event there is no question but that he will be once more returned with increased enthusiasm. The Liberals of this constituency are understood to have arranged for a meeting to-night at Wellington.

* * *

Hon. Mr. Ryder is once again back in his office directing the financial machinery of the country. He expects to find his opponent in Comox in the person of Mr. Meanee, a resident who enjoys the reputation of being a man of hard, practical common sense, and is assured of decisive victory.

Mr. Ralph Smith was also in the city yesterday, and contributes his own positive denial to the report circulated with a view to discrediting him—that he had become a Martin follower.

* * *

At the opposition committee rooms on Government street yesterday evening, a meeting of the executive and chairmen of the ward committees was held, and organization for the campaign was perfected with much enthusiasm.

Committees were named to arrange details for Thursday night's big meeting in the A.O.U.W. hall, and also to provide campaign literature; while several other matters of importance were disposed of—notably the setting aside of one night in each week for speechmaking on the questions of the day, the determination being to make every issue plain in its every phase before election day.

After the meeting Mr. Turner and a number of others of the leaders addressed the general committee briefly and practically showing the importance to Victoria of returning the four opposition candidates and thus performing its part in the restoration of good government and provincial prosperity.

Chairmen of the committees can now secure the necessary canvassing books from the secretary on application at the central committee rooms.

A meeting of the executive is called for to-morrow afternoon—in the Foresters' hall, Government street, at 5 o'clock sharp.

VANCOUVER LABOR MEN.

Vancouver, April 30.—There were 28 delegates out of fifty chosen, present at the labor convention held to-night to nominate two candidates for the next election. The meeting was very stormy and business was interrupted by several motions to adjourn. The following were named from whom the two candidates will be nominated at the next meeting: E. Macpherson, C. Woodward, George Bartley, Fred Fowler, F. Williams, H. B. Gilmour and Harry Cowan.

THE FIRES OF APRIL.

Incendiarism Rampant But Comparatively Light Losses on the Whole.

The month of April was prolific in incendiary fires and others of unknown origin; but the losses were small. The record opened on the 11th, with a fire at a Chinese laundry on Quadra street; cause unknown; supposed defective chimney; estimated loss, $40. On Good Friday morning a second fire almost completely destroyed the frame building which was owned by J. Cowper and occupied by Yee Chung; loss estimated at $750; insurance, $600. The next fire reported was an attempted incendiarism at a woodshed adjoining No. 2 Blanchard street; no less. On the morning of the 17th an ash-box fire was extinguished in the yard adjoining the Western Union telegraph office; no loss. A roof fire occurred on the 17th at a frame building on Store street; cause, sparks falling on shingles; loss estimated at $30. Two incendiary fires engaged the attention of the fire department on the 19th and 20th, and an attempt to destroy a third building was made at the time that the firemen were out at the Chinese shacks on Fisgard street. The losses from the three fires did not amount to $50. On the 24th an attempt was made to burn a residence, No. 27 Heywood avenue; little damage was done. During the high wind, on the 20th, sparks ignited the shingles on the roof of Mr. Wey's residence at the corner of Moss street and Fairfield road; loss $10. The last fire of the month was caused by spontaneous combustion, a careless Chinaman leaving rags saturated with turpentine and oil on the floor of a residence on Simcoe street. Total fires and alarms, 11; estimated losses, $920.

There is no uncertainty about Pyny-Pectoral. It cures your cough quickly. All bronchial affections give way to it. 25c. of all druggists. Manufactured by the proprietors of Perry Davis' Pain-Killer.

LOCAL NEWS.

From Wednesday's Daily Colonist.

Remains a Mystery.—The police authorities have been unable to obtain the least clue to the mysterious disappearance of Assistant Paymaster Clarke, of H. M. S. Leander, who so suddenly dropped out of sight a month ago. Every effort has been made to find a trace of him but without avail.

Going to Nome.—C. E. Jones, who recently disposed of his drug business in this city, leaves shortly for the Sound, where he will purchase a new stock of drugs with which to engage in business in Nome. Mr. Jones will be a passenger by the George W. Elder, sailing on the 24th of the present month.

Committed for Trial.—In the provincial police court yesterday William and Edward Bayless, father and son, were committed for trial on the charge of breaking into and entering the house of William Gillespie and stealing therefrom articles valued at $20. They will elect for speedy trial this morning and will be tried on Friday.

Customs Returns.—Receipts at the custom house for the month of April amounted to $116,202.84. Of this amount $63,329.67 was collected at Victoria and $23,695.32 at the passes in the North. The sum of $29,177.85 was collected from other revenues.

Heal-Foley.—At the Bishop's Palace, Yates street, on Monday evening, Rev. Father Althoff united in marriage Mr. Harry W. Heal, of the provincial police force at Atlin, and Miss Eugenia M. Foley, second daughter of Capt. Foley, formerly of Brooklyn, N.Y. Mr. and Mrs. Heal are spending their honeymoon in Seattle, and will go to Atlin to take up their residence.

The Police Court.—Louis Moraes, one of the gang of youthful thieves who pilfered from some trunks stowed in a building adjoining the Dominion hotel, was yesterday sentenced to five months' imprisonment by Magistrate Hall. Moraes was found in possession of a watch which was proved to be part of the stolen goods.

New Lime Enterprise.—Leases of the valuable lime rock quarries belonging to Mr. Wale, of Highland district, and the quarries on the Colwood farm have been secured, through F. G. Richards & Co., by a company formed for the purpose of burning lime on an extensive scale. The lime rock at the points mentioned is of a very superior quality, commanding the highest price in the market. The company will at once commence operations on a large scale.

The Fire Relief Fund.—Further additions to the fund being raised for the relief of Ottawa and Hull fire sufferers, reported last evening were as follows: Isaac Gould, $5; Mrs. C. A. Wilson, $2; Miss Ethel Wilson, $1; Mrs. J. O. Dunsmuir, $100; F. W. P., $5; A. J. C. Galletly, $5; A. C. Flumerfelt, $5; a friend, $5; N. B. Gresley, $2.50; C. E. O. Ellerton, $2.50.

St. John's Vestry.—The vestry meeting of St. John's church was held last evening. The church wardens' financial report was adopted, and the following appointments made: Rector's warden, Mr. D. R. Ker; people's warden, Mr. E. Pearson; sidesmen and church committee—Messrs. B. C. Moss, R. Seabrook, H. B. Robertson, R. W. O. Savage, F. J. Claxton, A. C. Flumerfelt, J. Holland, A. C. Reddie, A. Tubb, W. J. Sutton and H. Saunders. A vote of thanks was tendered to the ladies of St. John's Guild for their many efforts in raising funds for the church. After similar appreciation was expressed for the services rendered by the retiring wardens the meeting adjourned.

Sign of Good Times.—What may properly be considered evidence of a brightening of the prospects of business conditions in Victoria as well as indicating that "bloated corporations" are not entirely oblivious of the welfare of their employees, was the announcement made yesterday that the tramway company had voluntarily increased the wages of the motoneers and conductors on the Victoria lines. Heretofore the wages paid has been 20c per hour. The new rate now in force provides that the rate for the first year's service shall be 20c per hour, 21c the second and third years and 22c for following years. This action of the company was quite voluntary, one motive actuating them being to keep good men in their employ. The rails to be used in the double-tracking of a portion of the system have already been shipped and will arrive shortly.

From Tuesday's Daily Colonist.

The following contributions have been received at Molsons' Bank: Capt. John Irving, $100; Dr. G. L. Milne, $5; H. Bickford Wilson, $5. R. Drake has contributed $2 to the Times fund.

Meet This Morning.—A special meeting of the Council of the British Columbia Board of Trade is called for this morning at 11 o'clock, when the appointment of a delegate to the Congress of Chambers of Commerce of the Empire will be made and numerous other items of important business receive consideration.

Presentation.—Mr. A. W. Currie, who yesterday severed his connection with the teaching staff of the Boys' Central school, was presented by his fellow teachers with a gold-headed cane, accompanied with an address. The boys of Mr. Currie's division presented him with a beautiful plant in an ornamental flower pot.

Special Rates for the Holidays.—For the various 24th of May celebration throughout the province, the C.P.R. are this year making the usual reduced rates—single fare for the round trip from all points between Vancouver and Calgary, inclusive of the Kootenays. The tickets are to hold good going on May 23 and 24, and for return up to the 27th.

Public Lectures.—Rev. W. H. Barraclough of the Centennial Methodist church last evening delivered an interesting lecture to the younger members of his congregation. On Wednesday evening Rev. J. C. Speer, the retiring pastor of the Metropolitan church will deliver a lecture in Centennial church on "Jerry Macauley, a diamond from the depths."

Property Rights Ignored.—That meanest of all petty thieves, the pilferer of flowers, appears to be operating in all parts of the city, and even to have extended his operation within the sacred limits of the old Quadra street cemetery, several complaints having been received during the part few days of graves wantonly desolated. Mrs. Scriven, too, suffered from the depredations of the flower spoiler during her absence from her home, Vancouver House, on Sunday morning from 10 till 12, all her beautiful roses being stolen, to her infinite regret, more especially as she had been treasuring them for the wedding of a friend.

Orphans and Their Guardians

Twenty-Seventh Annual Meeting of the B.C. Protestant Home Yesterday.

Important Reports Submitted by Various Committees of Management.

The 27th annual meeting of the British Columbia Protestant Orphans' Home was held yesterday afternoon in the city hall. His Worship Mayor Hayward in the chair. There were also present, Dr. Wilson, Rev. E. G. Miller, E. C. Baker, R. S. Day, Wm. Scowcroft, N. Shakespeare and Mesdames Hayward, Higgins, Sargison, McCulloch, McGregor, Going, Hutcheson, Munsie, Galletly, Atkins, McTavish, Berridge, Miss Carr, Miss Crease, Miss Wilson and others. After prayers by the Rev. D. Wilson and the disposal of routine business, a letter from Rev. Dr. Campbell regretting his inability to attend was received, after which the president submitted the following report.

Victoria, B.C., April 30th, 1900.

Ladies and Geneltmen:—This, the 27th annual meeting of the subscribers of the home for orphan, destitute and other children, finds the institution still engaged in its noble work, and succeeding beyond the most sanguine expectation of its founders, in contributing not only to the comfort and physical well being of its beneficiaries, but also endeavoring to exercise an influence for good over them, so that in due course they may be fitted to assume their proper share of the responsibilities and duties of men and women, the far-reaching effects of which it is impossible to estimate.

The unsuccessful effort made last year to secure legislative enactment, enabling the officers of the home to assume the legal guardianship of the neglected and deserted children coming under their care, should not discourage renewed efforts in that direction. The importance of this subject can scarcely be overstated, and it may be safely asserted that the usefulness of the home would be doubled if the authorities were placed in a position to provide foster homes for some of these children by accepting some of the many applications for adoption, constantly being received. The fear, and almost certainty, of the unnatural parent claiming the children, as soon as they have passed the perils and trials of early childhood, and can be made useful or profitable, effectually deters and prevents their being adopted; and as most of the applications for children come from the farming districts, it is obvious that advantages would accrue to the whole province if our surplus city children could be comfortably placed in situations where they would acquire habits and knowledge fitting them for prosperous and useful citizenship hereafter.

With regard to the grand jury's report made after their recent visit to the home, it should be stated that the suggestions therein for making the institution more homelike, and for more modern fittings for the dormitories, pictures for the walls, interior decorations, etc., meets with the hearty approval of the managers, and it is hoped that during the coming year sufficient funds may be available to carry out at least some of these improvements. Unfortunately, however, the prime and first necessity of providing good wholesome food, and plenty of it, suitable warm clothing, boots and shoes, etc., have hitherto taxed our resources to the utmost, and has been practically prohibitive against anything in the line of luxuries or decorations. The kindness of the grand jury in drawing public attention to these necessities may, it is hoped, result in these matters receiving the support and attention they deserve.

The honorary's treasurer's report submitted to-day has been brought up to date, and therefore includes fourteen months' business. The reason for this, we regret to state, is that our present efficient treasurer, Mr. A. C. Flumerfelt, finds it necessary, owing to contemplated absence from the city, to decline reappointment.

The falling off of the amount received from subscriptions, points only to the need of more systematic collections, and must not be taken as indicating in any way the lack of generous sympathy with the work. Our large committee of managers should be subdivided into smaller and more practical bodies, for specific purposes, and particularly for providing the necessary funds. Hitherto nearly the whole of this labor has fallen upon one or two officers, who recently have been unable to devote the necessary time to it, and consequently many first-class contributors have fallen into arrears, and but few new ones obtained.

The annual outing of the orphans and their friends by rail to Duncans, kindly provided by the Messrs. Dunsmuir free of charge, was much enjoyed, and resulted in the substantial sum of $320.35 being added to our funds. It is not yet known what direction this year's excursion may take, but it is understood that those having the matter in hand will shortly have a pleasurable announcement to make.

The ladies still have full control of the internal affairs of the home, and to their economical and wise administration is due the fact that an average of nearly fifty-six children during the year have been provided with a warm (if not elegantly furnished) home, well fed and clothed, at a cost, including all charges, of $63.50 per capita, or $5.31 less than the average cost of the last seven years.

Thankful reference is made in the lady president's report to many kind gifts and loving help, and the matron's statement, published monthly, acknowledges in detail other generous assistance received, and it is not necessary to say more, except, perhaps, to express the hope that the never failing sympathy of the general public in this institution may be further supplemented by more frequent visits to the home. It is most encouraging to the matron and officers and cannot fail but have a salutary effect on the inmates, if they knew and felt that though deprived of the loving care of their natural protectors, they were surrounded by active friends who in some measure attempt to fill their places, and are sincerely anxious for their present and future welfare.

Respectfully submitted.

CHAS. HAYWARD,
President.

Received and ordered to be printed for the information of the subscribers.

The lady president also presented a report, as follows:

Ladies and Gentlemen: I have much pleasure in submitting for your kind consideration my second annual refort of the ladies' committee of the British Columbia Protestant Orphans' Home.

We have again to acknowledge, with feelings of gratitude and rejoicing, the continued and generous support of our many kind friends. The ladies having the internal management of the home meet once a month, the president appointing two of the committee as visiting ladies for the month, to assist the matron, procure supplies and bring in a report of the working of the home.

We have now a family of fifty-seven. Twenty-one were admitted during the year and twenty-one went from the home, the usual number being made up as follows: [illegible] moved by their friends, 7 were placed out on service and 2 adopted.

These fifty-seven little people live all in one house are well behaved, comfortable and tractable. Though they many miss the little individual attention as that other boys and girls more favored perhaps may have, we must remember that to the untiring energy and watchfulness of our excellent and faithful matron, Mrs. McGregor, the present satisfactory condition of affairs is due.

The plan recently adopted by the ladies' committee in placing children out at service or to learn a trade, has proven most satisfactory. We have secured for three or four boys good places at reasonable pay, who in return give a small portion to the home for board. Seven of our girls are giving satisfaction in as many different homes. We regret exceedingly not being able to accept of some happy foster homes that have been offered for little ones under our care. A committee of our ladies, kindly accompanied by Mr. H. D. Helmcken, waited upon the ex-Premier, with a view to having something done in this connection while the legislative assembly was in session. But though promising an early consideration, no favorable results came from the interview.

I cannot close this report without extending our grateful thanks to all who by kind deeds or donations of food, clothing or money, have enabled us to provide in the most economical way for the children now in our care, and for demands likely to be made upon us at any time. Particularly would we remember those who so kindly came to our aid at Christmas time, and by their assistance and generous gifts decorated the tree, which, though now past, was a thing of beauty while it lasted and greatly enjoyed by the children, who, fortunately, were all in good health this year and able to enjoy it and participate in the good things provided for the Christmas dinner.

In connection with the tree this year, we arranged a competition among our older girls, for the best bread made by them, and awarded prizes. Their work was certainly a credit to them and the idea proved very successful. I might also mention here that the needlework done by the girls is worthy of comment, they having surprised each of the ladies of the committee with a small gift of their own making.

Our thanks are again due to Mr. W. F. Best, for his lantern exhibition in connection with the Christmas entertainment, which delighted so many little hearts.

Our unbounded thanks are due to Mr. S. M. Robins, of Nanaimo, for his more than generous donation of coal, when we consider that it means fifty-eight tons of coal at $5.50 per ton.

We are also indebted to Miss Glover for the self-denying and painstaking manner in which she has persevered in her weekly class of kindergarten teaching among the younger children.

We must also gratefully mention the authorities of the Provincial Royal Jubilee Hospital for rendering gratuitous medical and surgical services. The grateful thanks of the committee is also accorded to Dr. Milne, Dr. O. M. Jones, Dr. Herman Robertson and Dr. Fraser for attendance at the home.

The Stoneyhurst Working Party also have materially aided us by their useful donations of well-made clothing.

We also desire to thank the press, the various lodges and others who throughout the year have befriended us.

In answer to an appeal sent out by our secretary to the country districts, the people of Saanich, Cowichan and other districts made a generous response in the form of fresh green vegetables and potatoes, which almost filled the home cellar.

In conclusion, let us congratulate ourselves upon the generous reception our appeals have met with, acknowledge the Divine Goodness that has been ours thus far, and still trust that many hearts in the future may be stirred to smooth the paths for these little feet.

Respectfully submitted.

JENNIE F. McCULLOCH,
President Ladies' Committee.

Received and ordered to be printed.

The hon. treasurers, Mr. A. C. Flumerfelt, then presented the following balance sheet, which was also received and ordered to be printed.

RECEIPTS.

Balance on hand		$ 528 39
Subscriptions		617 40
Collections		216 65
Donations		242 75
Entertainments—		
Fifth Regiment band concert	$166 85	
Excursion to Duncans by favor of Messrs. Dunsmuir	320 35	
Societies' re-union committee	52 50	
Nanaimo Miriam Rebecca Lodge No. 3, I. O. O. F.	153 00	
May Queen concert	14 00	
Sons of England concert	42 50	
		749 20
Board of inmates		1,533 50
Rent		374 00
Legacies—		
J. H. Todd	$100 00	
Wm. Morrison, bal.	23 10	
Wm. McDonald	180 00	
		303 10
Suspense account		10 55
		$4,576 14

EXPENDITURE.

Monthly bills	$1,448 24
Salaries	866 00
Fuel	12 00
Light	54 75
Printing and advertising	58 30
Labor	61 93
Insurance	250 00
Interest on mortgage	844 78
Refund to H. Edwards	202 00
Taxes	185 55
Sundries	36 65
Cash in Bank of B.C.	555 04
	$4,576 14

The following gentlemen were elected a committee of management for the ensuing year.

Representing the Reformed Episcopal Church.—Right Rev. Bishop Cridge, Chas. Hayward, Esq., R. S. Day, Esq., Rev. Joseph Wilson.

Representing the Anglican Churches.—Right Rev. Bishop Perrin, Edgar Crow Baker, Esq., A. C. Flumerfelt, Esq., Rev. E. G. Miller.

Representing the Presbyterian Churches.—Rev. Dr. Campbell, Rev. W. Leslie Clay, William Henderson, Esq., Thornton Fell, Esq.

Representing the Methodist Churches.—Rev. W. H. Barraclough, Noah Shakespeare, Esq., Rev. C. Rowe, W. J. Pendray, Esq.

Representing the Congregational Church.—Rev. Fred. Payne, George Carter, Esq., Wm. Scowcroft, Esq., D. Spragge, Esq.

Representing the Baptist Churches.—Rev. Hastings, Rev. Vichart, H. R. McIntyre, Esq., Capt. Wm. Grant.

An informal discussion on various subject referred to in the reports then took place and some suggestions made relative to improvements at the home, which were referred to the new committee of management, who will hold their first meeting on Friday afternoon next at 4 o'clock at the city hall to appoint their officers and and elect a representative ladies committee.

Light on an Old Mystery

Wrecked Schooner's Bleaching Bones Supposed to Be of The American Girl.

Captain Meyer Becomes a Nanaimo Pilot—Victorians in the Yukon Trade.

The mystery that has so long surrounded the disappearance of the three-masted schooner American Girl is solved at last, the fishing steamer New England—which has just returned to Vancouver from the Northern fishing grounds—reporting that her bleaching bones are piled in a small, unfrequented bay 70 miles north of Cape St. James and on the eastern shore of Moresby island, of the Queen Charlottes. The dry, clear air of the North has kept the wreck in good preservation. Indeed, from her appearance she would seem to be a victim of a storm not three months past. Bow and stern have, however, been both, unfortunately, carried away, so that positive identification is impossible, although her American build, her dimensions and her lines as they may be judged from the wreckage, all point to her as the American Girl. This schooner, it will be remembered, was lost in the fierce gales of last November, while en route from San Francisco for Port Hadlock for lumber cargo. The Colusa, the Libertad and three other craft perished in the same autumnal tempest, while the Highland Light and Ferris S. Thompson escaped, the former giving as a last report from the Girl that she had seen her off the Cape battling with the storm. She had then only a foresail set, and was seemingly being blown out to sea. Her crew numbered eight men all told, and as none have ever been heard from, the well-grounded supposition is that all found sailor's graves. The spot at which the wreckage now lies is in the trend of the northern current, while it is no wonder that earlier reports have not been received, as there are no Indians now making their home on the island and it is but very infrequently visited, and abounds in little inlets entirely obscured to passing ships.

IT IS NOW PILOT MEYER.

Well Known Victoria Mariner Appointed to the Nanaimo Pilotage District.

Captain William Meyer, for many years identified with the navigation of Northern waters for the Canadian Pacific Navigation Company has recently been appointed to the Nanaimo pilotage district, and enters upon his new duties there to-day. The new Nanaimo pilot will require no introduction to anyone who has at any time been acquainted with steamboating in Northwest waters. He was born in Germany in 1853, and after following the sea in various parts of the world arrived in Victoria in charge of the bark Estella, bringing the first water pipe ever received in this city. The bark ran into Esquimalt harbor during a heavy gale, and was obliged to cut away the masts to keep off the rocks; while awaiting repairs Captain Meyer became acquainted with Miss Henrietta Moore, a daughter of the well known steamboatman, Captain Moore, pioneer and founder of Skagway and the White Pass route, and before leaving, was married to this young lady. The Estella loaded spars at Utsalady for the Cape of Good Hope, and after taking her round the world again, Captain Meyer returned to Victoria and began steamboating with his father-in-law. When Captain Moore retired from the business, Captain Meyer entered the service of the C.P.N. Co., with whom he remained until quite recently, being most of the time in command of the steamer Danube on the Northern route. In addition to being a skilful navigator, Captain Meyer is cited by the Marine History of the Northwest as "an expert and authority on marine law."

"THE YUKON FLYER" LINE.

Captain Carroll and Associaties Organize In Victoria to Operate Dawson-White Horse Steamers.

One of the conspicuous announcements in the last issue of the British Columbia Gazette is that of the organization and incorporation, with capital of $60,000 and head offices in this city, of the "Yukon Flyer Line, Limited," of which Nels Peterson, Captain James Carroll, William Gorham, J. H. Lawson, jr., and one or two other Victorians are understood to be the trustees and incorporators. The company has asked for and received all the usual powers covering every avenue of business in which it is fairly possible they may see fit to embark, while the direct and special object of its existence is to take over the lower Yukon steamers Governor Pingree and Phillip B. Lowe, operated heretofore between St. Michael and Dawson, but which will th's season be run between the Klondike capital and White Horse, the terminus of the railway to the Coast. Both of the steamers named were originally American bottoms, but with their transfer to the new company duty has been paid on them, and their register changed to Canadian. Another new company to operate extensively in the North is the Upper Yukon Consolidated Company, Limited, also of this city, capitalized at $20,000, and of which Messrs. M. King and H. A. Munn are understood to be the chief promoters.

PROMISE A RACE.

Although the Brussels is Handicapped in Tonnage She Will Do Her Best.

Were there not so great a disparity in age and tonnage between the British ships Imberhorn and Brussels, which left Liverpool almost simultaneously for this port toward the end of January, a close and interesting round-the-world race would doubtless result, as the master of the Brussels dearly loves a brush on anything like equal terms, and knows every breath of air and how best to utilize it. On this occasion he has odds against him, however,—and heavy odds, for while the Brussels is a bark of but 991 tons and old (being built in 1863), the Imberhorn is a vessel of 1,997 tons, and only left the stocks in Dumbarton in 1882. The Brussels has, however, two days' start, as she got away from Liverpool on January 29, consigned to R. P. Rithet & Co., Limited, while the Imberhorn did not sail until the 31st, for Robt. Ward & Co., Limited. Both vessels are doing good sailing and keeping well together, for the Brussels on February 27 was reported from 1 N. 26 W., while the Imberhorn passed Fernando Noronha, S.A., on the 2nd March. They should be due here about the first week in June.

IMPROVEMENTS AT CARMANAH.

New Tramway to be Built From the Beach to the Lighthouse on Present Trip of the Quadra.

D. G. S. Quadra was steaming up yesterday preparatory to a run to the West Coast to-day which will extend as far at least as Cape Beale. The cutter is not, however, to pay her compliments on this occasion to the over-daring halibut poachers of whose depredations residents of the Coast have so frequently complained. That is a matter to which the department is still giving "due consideration"—while the stealing of the fish continues without interruption. The chief point of the Quadra's present cruise is to take down lumber and material for a new tramway from the beach, up the cliff, to Carmanah lighthouse.

VICTORIAN RESUMES SERVICE.

Improved Propellor Expected to Greatly Lessen Vibration Without Diminution of Speed.

The period of penance for patrons of the Sound route expires to-day, the Utopia having made her last trip Sunday, and the Victorian resuming her duties this morning, when she is expected to arrive and depart on schedule time. During her week's rest the regular steamer of the run has been fitted with a new propellor especially built for her by the Union Iron Works of San Francisco from plans and specifications by local experts assisted by Glasgow designers. The new propellor is set at a different pitch from the old—a somewhat lessened pitch—which is expected to slightly increase the speed while minimizing the vibration of the ship. The steamer has during the week been thoroughly overhauled, repainted, re-furnished (where refurnishing was required), and generally brightened for the summer service.

The transfer of the ships Lord Templeton, Drummuir and Dumbarton to specially incorporated Victoria companies, and the registering of these ships at Victoria, is understood not to indicate any new or special employment for these vessels, but merely a move for the convenience of the owners. R. P. Rithet & Co., Limited, are the managing agents of each.

She Was Pale And Languid.

Too Nervous to Sleep, and Daily Grew Weaker and Weaker.

By Using Dr. Chase's Nerve Food She Gained in Weight; the Color Returned to Her Cheeks; and She Gradually Became Strong and Well.

Few people escape the depressing, debilitating effects of spring, when the blood is thin and watery and the whole system exhausted by the artificial life of winter.

The young lady whose case is described below had never been strong since passing the critical period known as the dawn of womanhood. She was always overcome by tired, languid feelings and lacked the color, strength and elasticity of movement which are natural to a girl of seventeen.

Her mother tells in the following letter how her daughter was completely cured by the use of Dr. Chase's Nerve Food, the great restorer.

Mrs. E. McLaughlin, 95 Parliament street, Toronto, states: "My daughter was pale, weak, languid and very nervous, her appetite was poor and changeable, she could scarcely drag herself about the house, and her nerves were completely unstrung. She could not sleep for more than half an hour at a time without starting up and crying out in excitement.

"As she was growing weaker and weaker I became alarmed and got a box of Dr. Chase's Nerve Food. She used this treatment for some weeks, and from the first we noticed a decided improvement. Her appetite became better, she gained in weight, the color returned to her face and she gradually became strong and well. I cannot say too much in favor of this wonderful treatment, since it has proven such a blessing to my daughter."

In cases of thousands of pale, weak, nervous girls and women Dr. Chase's Nerve Food has demonstrated its unparalleled restorative powers. For men who are worn out by overwork or the ravages of disease this treatment is equally efficient.

It is a blood builder and nerve vitalizer of most unusual merit, which overcomes disease by strengthening and invigorating the whole system. As a spring restorative it is unapproached by any reremedy known to man. 50 cents a box, at all dealers, or Edmanson, Bates & Co., Toronto.

WASHINGTON'S ADMIRERS.

When Napoleon was about to embark for Egypt, some American gentlemen who happened to be at Toulon, being anxious for an interview with the mighty Corsican, obtained an introduction to him.

Scarcely were the customary salutations exchanged when he eagerly asked:

"How fares your countryman, the great Washington?"

"He was very well, General, when we left America," replied the travellers.

"Ah, gentlemen," replied the man of destiny, "Washington can never be otherwise than well. The measure of his fame is full. Posterity will talk of him with reverence, as the founder of a great empire, when my name shall be lost in the vortex of revolutions."

Marie Antoinette ,Queen of France, was a great admirer of the heroism and personal character of Washington, though not in sympathy with his political principles. Wishingto send him a royal gift in token of her appreciation of his great merits, she consulted Lafayette as to the form of presentation, citing the terms used on similar occasions in addressing kings and other monarchs. Lafayette mildly objected to these terms, as being not altogether suitable in the present case, saying:

"They, madam, were only kings. Washington is the general of a free nation."

And to this sentiment the gentle-mannered queen at once yielded a most gracious assent, in deference to the acknowledged pre-eminence of Washington.

In the year 1780, Frederick the Great, King of Prussia, presented General Washington with a picture of His Majesty, taken to the life, and inscribed underneath with the words:

"From the oldest general in Europe to the greatest general on earth."

Children's Services.—Anniversary services in connection with the Sunday schools were held in two of the Methodist churches yesterday. At the Centennial church there was a large attendance of teachers, friends and pupils, both morning, afternoon and evening. The total attendance during the year was 9,202 and the total collections $120.30. The total number of verses learned by the pupils was 98,583, the average attendance 176, and the maximum attendance 225. During the year a number of improvements were made in the school. At the Spring Ridge school special services were held at 11 a.m. and 2.45 p.m. The morning service was conducted by Rev. W. H. Barraclough and the afternoon service by Rev. J. C. Speer.

Spring

Immigration Agent's

Canada's Chief Represe on His Visits to Europ Continent.

Galicians at Home a People—Germans Tu From Mexico.

From the Toronto Star.

Mr. W. T. R. Preston, Canad gration agent to Europe, who has to Toronto during the week, can interesting facts concerning the prevailing in the countries of World, and also some interesting ces he has encountered during In conversation with a Toronto S sentative he mentioned the extr that an agent in a foreign coun exercise. An indiscretion will e him expulsion from the country him forever from pursuing his France they are particularly ave removal of their citizens; they f enough to keep their population mark as it is. In Germany, have served their military term at liberty, as they are also in Austria.

WHERE HE WORKED

"When did you work principal The Star.

"With the exception of Spain Greece and Turkey, I was in e try in Europe. From the time don till my return I travelled 30 And, would you believe it, I called into requisition the serv of a guide or of an interpreter. previous knowledge of the lang I picked them up as I went alo on nicely."

"Can you give the Star readers about the present life of Eastern

"It is an amazement" was t "I have visited many of the Galicia, Hungary and Russia be names as Berozwisea, Ostrow, To see one such peasant commun tically to understand the mode all. In Galicia, as in peasant li other country in Europe—and s ditions appear to prevail al through to the Caucasian distr —the people gather together in communities, separated only by meters. These communities a quently situated along the grea fares. The conditions that appe are usually prosperous. Each pe ing probably averages ten or tw but it is a rare occur their possessions to be location—that is, the aggre of rentings is in three or m Very rarely is a fence seen i of miles, the holdings being sli out at the corners. In the cu their respective locations not width necessary for the furrow is wasted, so that a fertile valle

LIKE A VAST FARM

under one management. The c the cultivation of each plot ma understood by the statement th can be seen at any stage of gro I had an opportunity of passi this locality in the summer, an as the most careful observation not a sign of a noxious weed m In the fertile valleys of Gall very valuable and rents are extr therefore the peasant populati thrifty and careful if they want more than a bare existence. crops and good farming they c to make some provision for the

"The peasant houses or huts are identically the same type, scarce and costly, and only used to support the thatched roof is the only part of the buil if it might be termed so, any a is displayed. One cannot avo the care and labor expended in tion to make their habitations In very few cases did I observe whiten the outside of the cotta not a single instance did I m fowl sheds annexed to the hou were evidences of cleanliness an could not escape observation. munity had a common well, an variably placed and guarded face drainages.

NO MONEY IN LIQU

"Around the outskirts of m communities was to be seen a ramshackle kind of a buildin learned upon enquiry to be the animals and men were given an of mingling under the same roo same compartment. A glanc ficient to lead to the conclusio ness in such a place was far fr ous, and that the people in th hood were not afflicted with

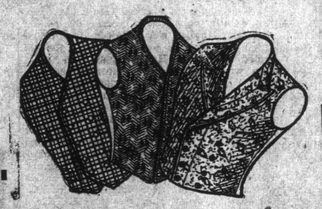
B. WILLIAMS & CO.

Will remove as soon as the Permanent Sidewalk is Laid.

SLAUGHTER PRICES ARE STILL THE ORDER.

SUMMER SUITS

$4.75, $5.45, $6.90,
$7.75, $8.90, $10.00.



Boys' 3-Piece Suits
$3.25, $3.75, $4.25, $4.50.

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$1.00, $1.50, $1.75, $2.00

BARGAINS FOR EVERYONE.

Spring Stock Now Complete.

TRADING STAMPS ON ALL CASH PURCHASES.

Immigration Agent's Talk

Canada's Chief Representative on His Visits to European Continent.

Galicians at Home a Thrifty People—Germans Turned From Mexico.

From the Toronto Star.

Mr. W. T. R. Preston, Canada's immigration agent to Europe, who has returned to Toronto during the week, can tell many interesting facts concerning the conditions prevailing in the countries of the Old World, and also some interesting experiences he has encountered during his work. In conversation with a Toronto Star representative he mentioned the extreme care that an agent in a foreign country has to exercise. An indiscretion will easily bring him expulsion from the country and debar him forever from pursuing his work. In France they are particularly averse to any removal of their citizens; they find it hard enough to keep their population up to the mark as it is. In Germany, after they have served their military term, they are at liberty, as they are also in Russia and Austria.

WHERE HE WORKED.

"Wher did you work principally?" asked The Star.

"With the exception of Spain, Portugal, Greece and Turkey, I was in every country in Europe. From the time I left London till my return I travelled 30,000 miles. And, would you believe it, I never once called into requisition the services either of a guide or of an interpreter. I had no previous knowledge of the languages, but I picked them up as I went along, and got on nicely."

"Can you give the Star readers something about the present life of Eastern Europe?"

"It is an amazement" was the answer. "I have visited many of the villages in Galicia, Hungary and Russia bearing such names as Berozwiess, Ostrow, Malechip. To see one such peasant community is practically to understand the mode of living in all. In Galicia, as in peasant life in every other country in Europe—and similar conditions appear to prevail all the way through to the Caucasian district in Asia—the people gather together in villages or communities, separated only by a few kilometers. These communities are very frequently situated along the great thoroughfares. The conditions that appear to prevail are usually prosperous. Each peasant holding probably averages ten or twelve acres, but it is a rare occurrence for their possessions to be in one location—that is, the aggregate area of rentings is in three or more places. Very rarely is a fence seen in hundreds of miles, the holdings being simply staked out at the corners. In the cultivation of their respective locations not even the width necessary for the furrow of a plough is wasted, so that a fertile valley looks

LIKE A VAST FARM

under one management. The care given in the cultivation of each plot may be better understood by the statement that the crops can be seen at any stage of growth. And I had an opportunity of passing through this locality in the summer, and, in so far as the most careful observation could reveal not a sign of a noxious weed met the eyes. In the fertile valleys of Galicia land is very valuable and rents are extremely high; therefore the peasant population must be thrifty and careful if they want to eke out more than a bare existence. With good crops and good farming they can manage to make some provision for the future.

"The peasant houses or huts everywhere are identically the same type. Timber is scarce and costly, and only sufficient is used to support the thatched roof. The roof is the only part of the building where, if it might be termed so, any artistic taste is displayed. One cannot avoid admiring the care and labor expended in that direction to make their habitations attractive. In very few cases did I observe a failure to whiten the outside of the cottages, and in not a single instance did I find cattle or fowl sheds annexed to the house. There were evidences of cleanliness and order that could not escape observation. Each community had a common well, and it was invariably placed and guarded against surface drainages."

NO MONEY IN LIQUOR

"Around the outskirts of many of the communities was to be seen a particularly ramshackle kind of a building, which I learned upon enquiry to be the tavern. Here animals and men were given an opportunity of mingling under the same roof and in the same compartment. A glance was sufficient to lead to the conclusion that business in such a place was far from prosperous, and that the people in the neighborhood were not afflicted with appetites for strong drink. These places were invariably in the hands of Polish Jews.

"In marked contrast with the tavern was the village schoolhouse, which, next to the church, was always the most expensive and best looking building in the community—large, airy, neat and clean. I glanced into one of them, and, but for the quaintness of the costume, might have imagined myself looking at the children of a rural school in some newly opened section of my own country, Canada. The law is strictly enforced in Galicia in respect to compulsory education, and children from six to fourteen years of age must attend school continuously. The effect of this is seen in the gymnasium or high schools in the centres of population like Cracow, Lemberg and Tarnopol, where among the brightest pupils are the children of the peasants. And it also was pointed out to me, as an evidence that in the peasant life of this country there are latent aspirations, that sons of peasants occupy many positions in official life. In this way they are working themselves above the class to which they belonged in childhood.

A HEALTHY PEOPLE.

"As to the general health of the people, there was every evidence of it being good. In respect to vaccination, it is satisfactory to learn that every year the state or provincial authorities have every community visited officially by medical health officers, and the additions to the population are vaccinated. This is absolutely compulsory.

"I am fully aware that the Galician whom I have seen here, neat and tidy in his attire, although somewhat quaint to Anglo-Saxon eyes, cheerful in his demeanor and deferential to the marked degree, does not bear a strong recemblance to the Galician whom I have seen arrive in Canada, haggard and tired, after four weeks' travel by land and sea. But I have seen his home, the village where he has come, the farm land that he has cultivated, and I have had no difficulty in arriving at the conclusion that, given a chance in Canada amid its free institutions, he will quickly become Anglicized, and, through his natural thrift and industry, will develop in a few years into a citizen of whom the most sensitive Canadian will not feel called upon to be ashamed.

"The special phase of life in Galicia that presented itself, and which I may say is also common to peasant life in Europe, is the probable necessity for legislation to provide for compulsory action in respect to the maintenance of roadways and thoroughfares. The occasion for good roads at all seasons of the year does not appear to have made an impression upon these people, and I was informed that, except in respect to the great military highways, the roads are practically impassable during the fall and spring months.

RUSSIA'S FINE RAILWAYS.

"You ought to see the railroads they have in Russia, however; they are the finest in the world. Travelling is a real pleasure there. The time tables are arranged so that at meal times stops are made at large depot dining halls, where the very best of everything the land can produce is furnished at very moderate rates—rates set by the government. I wish the government would get a Russian to take charge of the great Halifax-Montreal Short Line. There would then be some chance of attaining a Canadian seaport worth talking about."

"Are the Continental emigrants as desirable as those from the British Isles?"

"They are not. The class who are obtainable from Britain, however, require some scheme of government assistance to bring them out. The class consists of farmers and artisans who have betaken themselves to the large centres only to find that there is no room for them there.

PLANS TO BRING PEOPLE.

"I have some propositions to make to the government at Ottawa in connection with this problem.

"The European peasants will do for the Northwest, however, what the same class have done for the States. After a couple of generations, when they have intermarried and become Anglicized, they will be a fine people with a splendid intellectual, moral and physical manhood. You may depend upon it they will get all out of the land that is in it.

"The poorer classes cannot come as conditions exist. These peasants scarcely ever have less than eight in a family. It costs them $55 a head to reach the Northwest. You see that they have to be comparatively well-to-do before they can start.

"A couple of years ago I met a Russian in the Northwest on the train. He told me he was going to Washington to see about settling. I persuaded him to stop off with me at Calgary and I showed him the country for a few days. As a result he is now with his family settled in the West, and has some 25,000 roubles invested. I am just informed that some of his friends are coming out this spring on his recommendation with 200,000 roubles among them.

ONE GOOD STROKE.

"In a German restaurant one day I overheard a party discussing plans for going to Mexico. I got hold of our booking agent and after some trouble got him to make a proposal to them by which they would come to Canada. After considerable difficulty we got sixty of them to come. Before I left Europe they had written back to their friends who are in the centre of a large emigration district, advising them all to come out as quickly as they could. Letters from the 150 who had gone to Mexico stated that they were living lives of slavery."

Victoria Aids The Sufferers

Good Sums Obtained by Band Concert and From Private Subscriptions.

Sunday's Entertainment in the Drill Hall a Most Enjoyable Affair.

The hurriedly-arranged concert in the Drill Hall on Monday evening in aid of the sufferers by the Hull and Ottawa fires could hardly have been a greater success had weeks been spent in its preparation. Nearly every seat was occupied and every number in the programme proved immensely enjoyable. A collection was taken up and this with the receipts at the door made a total of $351.10.

The band was in excellent form and the vocal selections were up to the usual high standard maintained by Victoria amateurs. Chief among the successes of the evening was unquestionably Mr. Albert T. Goward's magnificent rendition of "The Holy City," by Stephen Adams. Mr. Goward's singing is little short of the best efforts of the noted professionals and his achievements are an increasing source of pride to Victorians. "Nearer, My God, to Thee," by Mr. J. G. Brown, evoked great enthusiasm. Mrs. J. D. Heinicken contributed one solo in her inimitably sweet manner, but did not respond to a loudly demanded encore. The vocal duet, "The Angel" (Rubenstein), by Miss L. Loewen and Miss Lombard, was charmingly rendered, and Mr. Herbert Kent assisted in the general pleasure by a solo rendered in his usual efficient manner.

The collection was taken up by a committee consisting of His Worship Mayor Hayward, Percy Brown, David Spencer, C. H. Lugrin, Capt. Clark and R. P. Johnson, and there was a great applause when Col. Gregory announced the result and that the amount would be telegraphed to Ottawa at once. Following is the telegram which Col. Gregory forwarded:

Victoria, B.C., 30th April, 1900.

Geo. H. Perley, Esq., Chairman Relief Committee, Ottawa, Ont.

Fifth Regiment Canadian Artillery learn with deep regret of disastrous fire Hull and Ottawa, and have to-day placed to credit your committee at Canadian Bank Commerce, Ottawa, three hundred fifty-one dollars ten cents, gross proceeds of sacred concert given at Drill Hall last night by regimental band, under direction of Bandmaster J. M. Finn, His Worship the Mayor and prominent citizens taking up collection. Bank of British Columbia and Western Union Telegraph Company have kindly remitted money without charge.

F. B. GREGORY, Lt.-Col.,
Fifth Regt. Can. Art.

In answer to the above Co. Gregory yesterday afternoon received the following reply:

Ottawa, Ont., April 30, 1900.

F. B. Gregory, Lt.-Col., Fifth Regiment Canadian Artillery, Victoria, B.C.

The relief committee desire to tender you their sincere thanks for your great kindness and expressions of sympathy, and wish you to convey their warmest thanks to your bandmaster and the regimental band for their successful efforts on behalf of our fire sufferers.

J. C. BROWN,
Treasurer Ottawa and Hull Fire Relief Fund.

The Colonist list was yesterday increased by subscriptions from Capt. Walbran, $5; "Retunop, $5; J. Bartlett, 50c., and Lady Crease, $1. The Mayor has received $25 from Henderson Bros., $25 from J. Piercy & Co., and $5 from Dr. J. S. Helmcken. His Worship also received the following telegram:

"Your telegram received and the committee beg to thank you for same. We shall be very grateful for sums which you can collect on behalf of the fire sufferers. Geo. H. Perley, chairman relief committee."

British Columbia Inventors.—According to an abstract from the United States Patent Office Gazette for the week ending April 17, 1900, supplied by Messrs. Trethewey & Brittain, 442 patents have been issued to citizens of that country; of Austria-Hungary, 3; of Canada, 15; of France, 7; of Great Britain, 18; of Germany, 19; of New Zealand, 1; Norway, 1; Russia, 1, and Switzerland, 1. One hundred and twenty-eight of these were assigned to manufacturing firms before the grants were made. Among the successful Canadian applicants for patent rights were three British Columbians—A. J. Kappele and Jas. Walker, for a vending box, and S. Jewell for a gas generator.

General Debility and a "run-down" state calls for a general tonic to the system. Such is The D. & L. Emulsion. Builds you up, increases your weight, gives health. Made by Davis & Lawrence Co., Ltd.

CANADIAN PATRIOTIC FUND.

It Has Received Material Aid From the Biograph Entertainments.

The biograph entertainment, which opens to-night at the drill hall for four nights and two matinees, in aid of the Canadian patriotic fund, has done good and very solid work for the cause it represents. The first performance was given in Ottawa on February 23, under the immediate patronage and active assistance of Their Excellencies the Governor-General and Lady Minto, the net proceeds of two days' performances there amounting to $1,275. Since then the biograph has visited nearly all the important towns in the East, meeting with immense success, the result being that the magnificent sum of close upon $10,000 has been handed in to the treasurer of the fund. These are good results, and Miss Beverley Robinson is to be congratulated upon the success of her patriotic work. There are sure to be very large audiences in the drill hall this week, when Victoria's contributions will go to swell the sum total.

In speaking of Miss Beverley Robinson, who will sing to-night at the drill hall, the Toronto Globe says: "Her voice is a mezzo-soprano of delicious quality, sweetness and great resonance, and her enunciation is strikingly natural and distinction. Perfection in attack, execution, mezzo-voce were all in evidence, in a manner, too, that made the musician's heart glad."

THE LION OF PLEVNA.

How Osman Pasha Held the Russian Army at Bay for Many Months.

Osman Pasha, the lion of Plevna, whose death was recently announced from Constantinople, was born at Tokat, in Asia Minor, in 1837, and was consequently sixty-three years of age. He entered the Turkish cavalry when a mere boy, and as sub-lieutenant fought in the Turkish contingent in the Crimea, under Osman Pasha. Here he distinguished himself so much that he was promoted lieutenant for his gallantry. He made the campaign against the Druses in 1860, became captain, fought in the Crimean war of 1867, and in the Yemen campaigns of 1871 and 1872, having risen by this time to the rank of colonel.

In 1876, as lieutenant-general, he was in command of the Turkish army then operating in Servia, and won two great battles at Velikl-Igwor and Saitshar. For this success he was at once created field-marshal. When the Russo-Turkish war began in the spring of 1877 he was appointed to the command of 35,000 Turkish troops in Widdin. He was the ablest, the most admired, and most trusted officer in the Turkish army, and quickly proved his competence upon the field of battle.

He was anxious above all things to take the offensive at the outset of the campaign and invade Roumanian territory. But to do this he was not permitted by the Sultan, and was left to cool his heels inactive for two and a half months which Turkey was struggling for her life. Then at last in July he was let go. The Russians were now pouring south through Bulgaria towards the Balkans, and he determined to hold them in check by a bold movement upon their right flank.

Accordingly he started on July 13 upon a seven days' march to Plevna, where he had decided to fight. The heat was intense, the dust choking, and at times the troops had to march all through the night to reach their destination in time. They were short of food and forage, and the country was desolate, but the object was accomplished. Plevna was seized just in time, and the great Turkish general set to work to make his dispositions for its defence. The position was excellent; the town was surrounded by hills on all sides, and these hills were close enough to be held by the Turks, so that no bombardment such as was inflicted upon Ladysmith was possible.

Immediately upon his arrival he was attacked by the Russians under Schilder-Schuldner, on July 20. The Russians in enormous masses threw themselves upon the Turks, who had hurriedly occupied the hills to the northeast of the town. They were received with murderous fire from the Martini-Peabody rifles of the Turks, and after about four hours' fierce fighting were completely repulsed, leaving no less than 3,000 killed and wounded upon the ground, and retreating in great confusion. The attack was conducted with great carelessness and folly, and would have had the most disastrous results had not the Turks been completely exhausted by their long and hard march.

Both armies were heavily reinforced, and a system of earthworks was thrown up round Plevna to defend the town. On July 30 and 31, in the famous two days' battle, the Russians under Krudener and Shcalkowski again attacked. The fighting covered an immense area, and was marked by the most desperate determination on either side, but in the end the Russians were repulsed with losses not far short of 10,000. On this occasion Schobeleff especially distinguished himself at the storming of the Krishin redoubt. The victors were in a state of such confusion after their victory that they were quite unable to follow it up.

The terror caused by Osman's success in the Russian army may be seen from this message of the Grand Duke Nicholas, the Russian commander-in-chief, addressed to the Prince of Roumania: "Come to our help; cross the Danube where you like, how you like, under what conditions you like, but come quickly to our aid. The Turks are annihilating us. The Christian cause is lost."

The Russians were once more enormously reinforced, and slowly closed in round the town, though they could not as yet invest it. On September 7, under the Czar's own eyes, the Turkish works were furiously bombarded; the bombardment proceeded all the subsequent days until the 11th, when fresh efforts to storm the positions began. After two days' hard fighting these were repulsed with awful loss by the quick and accurate fire of the Turkish infantry.

After this terrible defeat the Russian army sat down and invested the town. It held out till December 10, 1877, when the whole garrison made a desperate attempt to cut its way out, but was overwhelmed by numbers and captured. Thus ended the ever-memorable defence of Plevna. Among the wounded was Osman himself; he was hit by a shell splinter in his leg.

Taken as prisoner to Russia, he returned to Turkey in 1878, and was directed to organize the army. He was minister of war from 1878 to 1888, and during the Bulgarian troubles of 1885 mobilized 900,000 men, and was ready to take the field. He then fell into disfavor, and was for some years virtually a prisoner, though nominally in high place. During the Greek war of 1897 he was called from his semi-retirement, but the struggle ended before he could be given a command.

In appearance he was handsome and prepossessing, looking a born leader of men. Like Napoleon he was always distinguished by the plainness of his uniform. He had a queer habit of always even in battle, carrying a pencil behind his ear, butt-end foremost. He was taciturn, grave, abrupt, and disdainful of forms and etiquette. He hated all foreigners, especially Germans, Russians and English. As for war correspondents, he entertained the utmost detestation for them, hence the deeds of his army were never chronicled as they should have been. He had a strange method of dealing with cowards; he would send for them and publicly box their ears. When really angry his rage was terrible.

After the sortie and surrender he was seen to be weeping tears of rage and shame. He was, it may be, a little touched by the Czar Alexander II, who came up to him and said: "I congratulate you on your superb defence; it is one of the finest feats of military history."

And that is the judgment of posterity.—London Daily Mail.

A CANADIAN COMMANDEERED.

Interesting Experiences of a Doctor Forced to Serve With the Boer Ambulance Corps.

From the Toronto Globe.

Mrs. Gillespie of Cannington has received the following letters from her son, Dr. Paul A. Gillespie, recently a resident of Wilburg, Orange Free State, having practised his profession there the last three years, and now at Boshof. He was a graduate of Toronto University, and formerly of Penetanguishene, Ont. This is the first word received from the doctor since the 12th of October, when he was commandeered into the Boer ambulance corps. Dr. Gillespie also had a stable of thoroughbred horses, every one of which was commandeered by the Boers. From Dr. Gillespie's letters it is evident that, after the leave of absence which he mentions, he was sent to Boshof, Orange Free State, to take charge of Boer wounded, and had arrived there only a short time before the town was occupied by the British troops:

Winburg, Feb. 5th, 1900.

Dear Mother: No doubt you will be anxious about me, for although I have written to you regularly, I fear my former letters never reached you; but now I think I have found a means of getting letters through by sending them to the American consul at Pretoria, who, I think, will forward them. You must write to me as soon as you get this, and address me as usual, but enclose in the letters (which must be unsealed) about fifteen cents in stamps in another envelope, which you address to the American consul at Ottawa, and ask him to forward. Well, to begin with, I am in perfect health, and if I were not so anxious about you all at home I should be very happy. I left home on the 26th of October for the front on ambulance work, and only returned the day before yesterday for five days' leave of absence, when I must go back. It is a very rough life, but very healthy and most interesting. I am never in any danger. We are having nice weather now. I dream of home and you all nearly every night, and feel so disappointed when I wake up and find myself in Africa. I hope you are all well. I will not write any more now. With fondest love to yourself and family, I remain your affectionate son,

PAUL.

Boshof Base Hospital, Feb. 10, 1900.

Saturday—Dear Mother: Just a few lines to let you know I am well. I arrived here after my short holiday on Wednesday, and have been very busy since my return. I am very anxious to hear from you, as I have heard nothing since the war commenced. I hope you are all well. I never forget you, and I would give anything to see you all again.

Well, I must not write a long letter, so will close, with fondest love to yourself and all the family. From your affectionate son,

PAUL.

LORD METHUEN'S ARRIVAL.

Boshof Base Hospital, March 12, 1900.

Monday—My dear Mother: On March 7th I received Alice's letter of January 8th, the first I have had since the war began. I was so pleased to know you were all well, but am sorry you did not receive any of my letters, although I must say I had not much hope of their getting through. All the same, I wrote to you weekly. Well, I am happy to tell you that the British troops under Lord Methuen marched into Boshof yesterday morning about 8 o'clock, and we took off our hats and sang "God Save the Queen." I don't think I could ever adopt any other nationality, and, like the late Sir John Macdonald, "a British subject I was born, a British subject I will die." Lord Methuen left again this morning for Kimberley in a few days he will set out for the relief of Mafeking, which has been so gallantly held by Baden-Powell. Col. Barter, with the Yorkshire Regiment, is left here to garrison Boshof. I had the pleasure of meeting General Lord Methuen and nearly all the officers, and they are all most jolly fellows. I am in charge of the hospital here, but at present we have only fifteen patients. Well, I shall have to close now, as Capt. Williams, R.E., who is taking this letter to Kimberley for me, is waiting, and cannot wait any longer. He is married to a Canadian girl, formerly Miss Heward, Peter street, Toronto, and is an awfully nice fellow. With love to yourself and all the family, I remain your affectionate son,

PAUL.

A PARTISAN GOVERNOR.

Elastic Rules of Conduct to Embarrass or Assist as Personal Interests Suggest.

From the Vancouver Province.

One of the circumstances on which the Lieutenant-Governor based his dismissal of the Semlin government from office, as disclosed in his official letter to Mr. Semlin, was that government's proposal to expend certain sums of public money by means of special warrants. The Governor wrote: "I did not sign said warrants, as it appeared perfectly clear to me for reasons set forth in my letter to you of the 19th of October last, that such warrants were not authorized by the Revenue Act." Here is the rule clearly laid down that the Lieutenant-Governor should refuse his signature to warrants when he deemed them illegal, notwithstanding the advice of his ministers. But the rule seems to have been laid down to suit the one occasion only. Within the past few weeks the Lieutenant-Governor has signed a warrant which he must have known to be unauthorized by the Revenue Act. This warrant provides for the immediate expenditure of $4,000 on the wagon road between Comox and Nanaimo. When Mr. Ryder went north recently boasting that the people of Comox would support him because he had secured the expenditure in the district of this $4,000, it was generally taken for granted that he referred to a prospective appropriation of that amount by the house for the purpose mentioned. But it is now said that a warrant has actually been issued for the expenditure, and that the Finance Minister is parading the fact as a reason why he should be elected in Comox. In other words, he hopes to buy up enough Comox electors with this road expenditure to secure his own return to the house. As to the illegality of this warrant there can be no doubt whatever. The section of the Revenue Act which bears on the use of special warrants is the following:

"If any public work or building requires an immediate outlay for the repair thereof, or any other occasion arises where any expenditure not foreseen or provided for by the legislature, is urgently and immediately required for the public good, then upon the report of the Minister of Finance that there is no parliamentary provision or that the vote is expended, or upon the report of the minister having charge of the particular service in question that the expenditure is necessary, the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council may order a special warrant to be issued for the amount estimated to be required, and the issuance of such a warrant shall be sufficient authority to the auditor to authorize the payment so ordered to be expended or paid."

No man can honestly assert that the expenditure of this $4,000 on the Comox trunk road is "urgently and immediately required for the public good." The road has been in process of construction for some years, and will be of good service when it is finished, but there is not the slightest reason based on the "public good" why its completion should not wait on the action of the legislature. As a matter of fact, the $4,000 will not be likely to complete the road, which after the expenditure of that amount will be of little more public service than it is now. The plain fact is that the issuing of the warrant was a contravention of the law, and the Lieutenant-Governor in signing it violated the rule which he laid down for the benefit of his late advisers.

Why should the government have deliberately decided on committing this gross breach of the law? Evidently for no other reason than that it was hoped thereby to gain some support in Comox for a minister who had otherwise no chance of securing even a few votes. The man was a laughing-stock among the people of the district, he was not recognized as having any qualification whatever for membership of the house, not to speak of the ministry. This illegal expenditure was devised simply for the purpose of giving him some standing with the people of Comox. He has so stated the purpose himself and there is no reason to suppose that he was not adhering strictly to the truth.

What do the people of British Columbia think of this nefarious scheme? Is it possible that any considerable number of them can blink at this very evident breach of the law, deliberately decided upon with the object of purchasing votes with public money? The amount of illegal expenditure makes no difference as to the principle. If the Governor and his ministers are at liberty to take $4,000 from the treasury for an unworthy purpose they are equally at liberty to take $100,000. If the people condone the present offence they show themselves willing to have all safeguards removed from the public property and to place themselves at the mercy of any set of political adventurers who may through accident gain a temporary hold of office.

IN THE MONTH OF MAY

Paine's Celery Compound

Is the Great Banisher of Sickness and Disease.

It Has Become the Popular Remedy in Every Home.

In the month of May we find thousands of tired, run-down, weary and half-sick men and women who are not in a condition to cope with the work and duties of every-day life.

Some suffer from sleeplessness, nervous ailments, neuralgia, rheumatism, dyspepsia, liver and kidney troubles; others, owing to an impure and poisoned condition of the blood, are suffering from unsightly eruptions and skin diseases.

Paine's Celery Compound is the only true and trusted medicine for the present season. It purifies and enriches the blood, feeds and braces the nerves, builds up the weakened body, corrects digestion, gives mental vigor, bright eyes, clear skin and sweet sleep.

Physicians are daily prescribing Paine's Celery Compound in Canada, and hundreds of druggists strongly recommend it to their customers.

Try the effects of a couple of bottles of Paine's Celery Compound if you would build up physically and mentally for the coming summer. Paine's Celery Compound is the world's leading and curing medicine; "it makes sick people well."

THE FASCINATION OF NELSON

Nelson curiously impressed every one who approached him with the sense of great qualities. His figure is stamped imperishably in the English imagination—the careless dress, the slender body, the boyish face, innocence of beard, with the eager, forward set of the head, the hair brushed carelessly over the brow, the sensitive lips, the eyes, now of a tender blue and now of a keen and steel-like gray. If he was not vain, he had the sensitiveness which belongs to vanity. He was moody, irritable, fiercely impatient of pedantry and dulness. He hated Prenchasen with a half-humorous, yet whole-hearted, detestation scarcely intelligible to-day.

A deep religious vein ran through his character, though his religion had the oddest limitations, as the story of Lady Hamilton shows. . . Nelson drew the hearts of his captains together as by some spell. His unselfishness, his mingled sweetness and melancholy, his fiery daring, his scorn of everything indirect and base, his passionate loyalty to his country, and his faculty of piercing, as with a lightning stroke, into the heart of a difficulty, all combined to sway, as with some touch of magic, those about him. His slender and half-boyish frame, that gained a yet more fragile aspect later on when he was half-blind and one-armed, was another element of fascination in Nelson. . . . And yet in this frail-bodied, dyspeptic, half-blind seaman there burned a dazzling fire of courage, before which the daring of the bravest spirits in the fleet seemed pallid.—W. H. Fitchett.

APIOL & STEEL PILLS for Ladies.

A REMEDY FOR IRREGULARITIES

Superseding Bitter Apple, Pil Cochia, Pennyroyal, &c.

Order of all Chemists, or post free for $1.50 from EVANS & SONS, LTD., Victoria, B.C.

Martin, Pharmaceutical Chemist, Southampton.

Huge Contract In New York

Thirty-Five Millions the Estimate for Rapid Transit Underground.

Work Let to One Man Who Also Leases Lines for Fifty Years.

Work is just beginning on the construction of the New York underground railroad. This great enterprise, the contract price of which is $35,000,000, is the result of twelve years of popular discussion and of state and municipal legislation. The first steps leading up to the present work were taken in 1888, during the administration of Mayor Abram S. Hewitt. The tunnel or subway has its reason for existence in the peculiar configuration of Manhattan Island and in the inability of the existing surface and elevated lines to handle comfortably the enormous volume of travel during the "rush hours" morning and evening.

No extraordinary engineering problems are involved in the undertaking. Tunnels may be constructed, and have been constructed, below city streets, as well as through lofty mountains. Every great engineering project, however, involves details that are peculiar to itself, and these details for the New York tunnel, as presented below, will be found of unusual interest. But the preliminary questions in connection with the enterprise were not those of engineering, but of finance.

The cost of this public work is to be paid by the city of New York, which will own the tunnel. The city, however, will not build the subway immediately, as it would open a street or a sewer, but it has let out the job to the lowest responsible bidder, who is to construct the road, equip it and operate it for 50 years, with the privilege of renewal for 25 years longer. The city will sell its bonds to raise the money with which to pay the cost of construction, which money will be turned over to the contractor in instalments, and the annual rental to be paid by the contractor under the lease after the completion of the tunnel will be the interest on the construction bonds, plus 1 per cent. on the cost of the work. The bid that has been accepted by the Rapid Transit Commission was for the lump sum of $35,000,000. The contractor's chances for profit accordingly lie in the probability that the subway and the railroad can be constructed and equipped for less than $35,000,000, together with the probability that the net income from operation during the period of 50 years will be greater than the rental. The city in turn will find its reward in the ownership of a great avenue of rapid transit, built for the lowest price at which experts would do the work, full interest on the cost and 1 per cent. in addition being guaranteed for 50 or 75 years, and the property then to be open for such further use or disposal as may seem desirable. The 1 per cent. on the bonds paid as rental in addition to the interest on the bonds will go into a sinking fund for the retirement of the loan.

The contractor will be called upon under his bid to do all the work and furnish all of the material requisite to the building, construction and equipment of the railroad, including all sewer and street construction and reconstruction incident to the building of the railway. The equipment, however, will be the property of the contractor, though subject to a lien of the city to secure performance of the contractor's obligations.

Bonds and cash to the amount of $8,000,000 have been deposited on behalf of the contractor to insure the fulfilment of his agreement.

THE CONTRACTOR.

The Rapid Transit Commission issued its "invitation to contractors" in November, and the bids were opened January 15, two bids having been received. The successful competitor was John B. McDonald. Mr. McDonald is now building the Jerome Park reservoir in New York. Former contracts of his were on the West Shore and on the Baltimore & Ohio's belt line tunnel in Baltimore. The bid was based on an estimate of $30,000,000 for the tunnel and $5,000,000 for equipment.

After somewhat prolonged negotiations with various parties for the attainment of the necessary sureties, the contractor finally enlisted the financial backing of August Belmont & Co. The scheme developed into the organization of a corporation with $6,000,000 capital stock to stand behind Mr. McDonald in the prosecution of the task. This naturally is taken to mean that the financiers who are interested are abundantly convinced that the subway can be constructed and equipped within the bid, with a liberal margin to spare. The contract was duly executed February 25, and by its terms work must begin within 30 days. The construction will be under the immediate supervision of Mr. William Barclay Parsons, the engineer for the rapid transit board.

Detailed plans for the equipment and operation of the tunnel lines will not have to be submitted to the Rapid Transit Commission until the railroad shall have been two-thirds finished. The motive power is limited to something that does not require combustion in the tunnel, but whether electricity, compressed air or some other force as yet undiscovered or unemployed is left open, and current opinion tends to the conclusion that ultimately the underground railway will be operated by or in conjunction with either the Metropolitan surface lines or the Manhattan elevated lines, or both. It is understood that the franchise for operating the road is now the property of the construction company.

Provision is made in the scheme for fast and frequent service of both local and express trains from the southern terminus at the post office to the suburbs north of the Harlem River. Plans are now under consideration for an extension of the subway southward from the post office to the Battery, and thence under the harbor to the southern part of Brooklyn.

DIVIDED INTO SECTIONS.

The city expects that the railroad will be constructed, maintained and operated by the contractor according to the entire general plan, but for the purpose of restricting its pecuniary liability for rapid transit at any one time within narrower limits, the work is divided into four sections. Section one includes all the road from its southern terminus at the city hall to and including a station at Fifty-ninth street; section two includes all of the road on the west side north of the station at Fifty-ninth street to the intersection of 137th street and Boulevard, and also all of the road on the east side from 135th street and Lennox avenue; section three includes the road on the west side north of 137th street station and including a station at Fort George, also all of the road on the east side from 135th street to Melrose avenue; and section four includes all of the road on the west side north of Fort George station and all of the road on the east side north of the Melrose avenue station. The time allowed for the completion of the work is three years, at least three years for sections one and two, if it is decided that they shall be built at the same time, and the entire construction is to be completed within four and one-half years.

Most of the length of the line will be contained within the tunnel. The west side line, however, emerges from the underground level at 122nd street, and will be an elevated road from 125th to 133rd streets, entering the tunnel again at 135th street.

THE TUNNELS.

The grades at various points in the tunnel will range from 1 to 2 per cent. The construction of the tunnel will be of steel and concrete, the floor consisting of a foundation of concrete varying from a thickness of eight inches on a rock foundation to a greater thickness where the material is less favorable. The tunnel will be thoroughly waterproof, and the specifications are particularly definite upon this point. The roof of the tunnel will be supported by steel framework, consisting of bents 5 feet apart lengthwise of the tunnel, each bent being formed of built-up columns 12 feet 6 inches apart and capped with 15-inch I beams. The space between the I beams is to be arched with concrete. The width of the four-track tunnel will be 53 feet and the two-track tunnel 28 feet. In passing under the Harlem River the line will be carried in two cast-iron tubes each 16 feet in diameter. As this necessitates passing through the soft material under the bed of the river, it will be thoroughly encased in concrete, the roof of the tunnel being approximately 21 feet below mean low water.

THE TRACK.

The track construction will consist of rails laid on continuous bearing of wooden blocks, the blocks being held in place by guard rails, secured to metal cross-ties embedded in concrete. The rails will be of the section adopted as standard by the American Society of Civil Engineers, and of a weight of not less than 80 pounds per yard, laid in standard lengths of 30 feet. The specifications provide for the use of tie-plates, with ribs running longitudinally with the grain of the cross-tie. Guard rails are to be laid the whole length of each track and on both sides of the rails. In the underground work these guard rails are to be of steel in the shape of bulb angles or such other form as may be permitted by the engineer. On viaducts they are to be of long-leaf yellow pine timber, 6 inches wide by 8 inches deep inside of the rails. All timber used in connection with the track is to be preserved against decay by some process satisfactory to the engineer.

THE STATIONS.

The underground stations will be entered from the sidewalks through openings under ornamental coverings, and throughout the specifications the matter of ornamentation has been made of considerable importance. It is provided that all portions of the work which in any way come into public view outside shall be made with such ornamental finish as shall not detract from the most artistic surroundings. The platforms will be of concrete, 200 feet long and 20 feet wide at the middle and 10 feet wide at each end. The express stations will be about 1½ miles apart, and these will have island platforms, which are reached by bridges passing over the surrounding tracks. The station walls are to be faced with enameled brick, and the roofs will be of the concrete arch construction, except where it is possible to utilize sidewalk lights.

The equipment is required to be at least sufficient to supply at one time trains of three cars each on the local lines, at intervals of two minutes, and trains of four cars on the express lines, at intervals of five minutes. Each car is to have a minimum seating capacity of 48 persons. The motive power has not yet been decided upon, but the motors are required to have sufficient power to haul on levels, in addition to their own weight, trains of five cars each at an average speed of 35 miles an hour, with stations 1½ miles apart, allowing 10 seconds for the duration of each stop. In the matter of signalling devices, preference will be given to a system which will automatically bring a train to a stop in the event of the man in charge failing to obey a danger signal. The lease under which the contractor will use the road provides for the carriage of freight or express matter, with the limitation that such use shall not to any extent interfere with the use of the road to its fullest capacity for all passengers who shall desire to be carried.

The work will be under the direct supervision of Mr. William Barclay Parsons, chief engineer of the rapid transit board.

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Bishop Ridley Relates Impressions Made at a Religious Conference.

The Right Reverend Dr. Ridley, Bishop of Caledonia, a diocese comprising all the Northern portion of this province, with an area even greater than all Great Britain and Ireland, returned last evening from a protracted visit to the Old Country and New York, his stay in the great American metropolis being in connection with the recent Protestant congress—probably the greatest conference of religious workers during modern times. The Bishop of Caledonia represented the Church Missionary Society, giving his special attention to the representation of this province, and was but one of more than two thousand clergymen of national repute brought together for a comparison of notes and interchange of ideas. Ex-President Harrison acted as general president of the convention, and on one notable day addresses were given by McKinley, Harrison and Roosevelt—the past, the present, and (according to the views of many) the prospective president of the world's greatest republic. In contrasting the addresses of these three notable gentlemen, Bishop Ridley gives a little very interesting gossip of their personalities. Ex-President Harrison is, according to his view, the most accomplished speaker of the three. His sentences are polished and scholarly; his style most admirable; his convictions deep. President McKinley in his address gave more the impression of caution. His speech had been prepared with greatest care, and when after a good commencement the President found himself hesitating, he was not averse to quietly taking his written address from his pocket and reading the remainder. "Teddy" Roosevelt received unquestionably the most enthusiastic reception, and his address was notable for blunt simplicity and evident honesty. He made an excellent impression upon the religious congress as it is evident that he has upon the nation which may some time ask him to preside for a time over its destinies. The Bishop will spend but a day in Victoria, being at present a guest of the Hotel Driard. He has not yet fully recovered from the effects of a severe cold which occasioned him upwards of six weeks' suffering in England, dating from the occasion of the Oxford undergraduates' annual breakfast, at which this year British Columbia's pioneer had the honor of being the special speaker. He will leave for the North by the Tees, being met at Metlakatla by the majority of his clergy for a four days' conference, after which he will make an extended tour over his entire large and important field.

Letters to The Editor.

SPONTANEOUS COMBUSTION.

Sir:—Referring to your report in yesterday's Colonist of the several fires that have recently taken place in Victoria, I would, with your permission, direct special attention to some of the causes of what is called "Spontaneous Combustion. In your list, it happens, there is only one case— but from all accounts, that was a "close shave" for a faithful dog. The juxta-position of substances where hydrogen is liberated, or oxygen largely and rapidly absorbed. For instance, lime wash is an excellent disinfectant, but if it is applied to—say the walls of a warehouse where the stock in trade is piled up,—when the rainy season sets in, the wall becomes damp, an efflorescence takes place of nitrate of potash (saltpetre) some of the goods come in contact with it, the requisite conditions for making gun-cotton, or gun-fibre are fulfilled and a grand conflagration takes place. The coal hole of the house is generally under the stairs, it may not be impervious to water, nobody thinks it is owing to the moisture developing carburetted hydrogen amongst the coals that caused the fire. A lumber room in a house is even a cause of danger, a cushion stuffed with hay comes in contact with an old blackened tea-kettle; the black (carbon,) of the tea-kettle only wants a slight degree of dampness to set the hay alight, and so the house gets burned. Water, strange to say, is quite as dangerous when thrown indiscriminately about as it would be to fling about lucifer matches. What is water, but a compound of the most inflammable gas in existence (hydrogen) with the most energetis supporter of combustion known (oxygen). Oil is a predominating cause of fires, thousands of houses are placed in jeopardy by the careless way in which oil rags, used for cleaning furniture and machinery are disposed of when not in use. Turpentine rags seem to have been the cause of the conflagration at the house in Simcoe street, owing to the carelessness of a Chinese servant leaving a bundle of them tied up, a very nidus for the development of a fire.

J.G.

WORKINGMEN'S INTERESTS.

Sir: The working men of Victoria and those of the districts of British Columbia will shortly be asked to cast their votes for or against the Martin government, and I hope that workingmen will weigh carefully the work and actions of those who will solicit their support. At the present time Victoria, and British Columbia generally, is suffering from the most severe depression that has ever visited this province, and we should as workingmen carefully consider the causes of the present state of things. Two years ago when the party led by Mr. Turner was in power we were enjoying a period of prosperity that gladdened the hearts of all true workingmen. We had witnessed a large increase in our revenue; wages were at their highest; manufacturers were running overtime; building operations were being pushed along with great energy; the population of British Columbia was increasing at a very rapid rate; capital was pouring into the province; every confidence was shown in the reigning ministry of Mr. Turner. The mineral resources of the country were receiving the attention of the capitalists, and British Columbia was admitted to be the best opening for the money which is at all times seeking investment. Our agricultural interests were being well cared for; land was being rapidly taken up, and this interest the main backbone of all countries, was given every encouragement and every assistance by the government of Mr. Turner, and who himself was administering the department of agriculture.

Under Mr. Turner's administration we had witnessed Rossland grow from a mining camp of a few prospectors to a city of 8,000. Nelson, Greenwood, Phenix, Grand Forks, Columbia and a score of other places in the Kootenay country received such an increase in their populations that their wants caused such a demand to the manufacturers of Victoria and Vancouver that many of them were compelled to increase the number of employees, and make large additions to their factories.

Vancouver, more so than Victoria, added several thousands to the population. The province received the advertisement that was only the natural outcome of such wise and conservative administration.

The elections came on and the newcomers to our province clamored for a change. "Give the new blood a chance" was their only argument, no harm can come by giving the opposition or the outs a chance, let them have a try; this was the chief reason advanced for a change.

Well, sir, we have given them a chance. The Semlin government came in power and Mr. Martin was allowed the scope which was claimed he should have for his lauded abilities. Hasty legislation, slop-shop work, faulty laws, interference between capital and labor, truckling to one wealthy corporation, one month deceiving the workingmen of another. First lauding one colliery company and abusing the other, then resenting some fancied slight by that company, Mr. Martin turns his affections to the other colliery company, and because the Nanaimo representative in the cabinet withdraws his promised support, they come in for abuse and persecution of him who had sworn eternal friendship.

Mr. Semlin and those who formed his cabinet found out that the author of the risky and dangerous legislation, Mr. Martin, would soon lose for them any chance of being returned to power. Hundreds of men in Victoria realized on all their possessions and went to the Atlin gold fields. These men are now seeking an opportunity to show their feelings for the man who was the cause of their sufferings made no effort to straighten things out until the season was too far advanced to work. The men who went to work were compelled to sit down and eat their grub, and watch the days go by bringing nothing but misery to them, and no hope of earning sufficient to keep them through the approaching winter. Mr. Martin stands to-day in the eyes of scores of British Columbians as the wrecker of their fortunes, as the loser of all their hard earned savings, and through whose wretched legislation drove from the country the very men who are at all times the most welcome—the hard working prospector.

Under Mr. Martin's regime, we see agriculture neglected, capital driven away, the honor of the province shaken, confidence of investors weakened, our roads bridges and trails neglected, our industries waning, business in the Kootenays at a standstill, and failures every day. Banks are refusing to assist, or give any convenience to clients. We see our government administered by a set of incapables, show men, who are placed in office, not to administer, but to draw a salary; not to do the real work for the salary they draw, but to deceive the Ottawa government into the belief that the offices are filled according to instructions.

What the workingmen of this province want is men of ability and honor, not deceit; men who can command the confidence of investors; business men whom capitalists can rely upon.

We have before us the choice of Mr. Turner and his colleagues. Mr. Turner, a supporter of many industries in the province, who with his money and time, has always shown his willingness, even to his own disadvantage, to do all that was possible to assist the industries and manufacturers which would find employment for those who make British Columbia their home.

On the other hand, we have Mr. Martin, an adventurer, who with the $10,000 from the C. P. R. decides in return for the amount mentioned, to come to British Columbia for Manitoba's good; Martin the man who was responsible for all the legislation which passed the house at one session and which had to be cancelled at the first sitting of the house afterwards; a man who has shown that he is quite incapable of understanding the wants of this province, and who has lost all the friends he ever had, who came to this province with his all in a valise, and who has brought the province and its manufacturers to the verge of ruin; who is responsible for the loss of a million dollars in wages to the workingmen of British Columbia, and who if returned, will bring bankruptcy to the manufacturers and business men.

Mr. Martin has shown himself so devoid of truth, so reckless in his statements, so given to misrepresentations that no confidence can be placed in anything that he may utter or promise.

W. H. PRICE.

Stanley Villa, Victoria.

CANADA AT PARIS SHOW.

Position of Country's Exhibits in Colonial Section—Allotment of the Space.

Almost the first act on the part of the Royal British commission to the Paris exposition, after its organization with the Prince of Wales as chairman, was to invite the co-operation of Canada and other sections of the Empire.

For the purpose of securing and organizing a proper representation of the colonies, there has been named in the Imperial commission a colonial committee. Canada was invited to name a representative on this committee, and the government responded by nominating the high commissioner in London. Lord Strathcona and Mount Royal was chosen by this committee as their chairman, and was appointed the representative of the colonies on the general executive committee of the Imperial commission; so that Canada occupies a very honorable and advantageous position upon the Imperial commission, the more so in consequence of the high standing in London of her representative.

The French exhibition authorities deal exclusively with the British Imperial commission in regard to all matters connected with the participation of each and every part of the British Empire in the exhibition. The colonial committee in London, with the object of affording an abundant opportunity to the British colonies for proper representation, obtained the privilege of a special building set apart for the occupation of these colonies. Much correspondence and negotiation has taken place between the Imperial commission and the French authorities in regard to the concession of a separate building. It was not until January 1, 1899, that this was finally granted and the conditions fully determined.

In the course of this correspondence it became evident that the space thus accorded to the colonies as a whole was such that the portion allotted to Canada would be quite incommensurate with the requirements of the Dominion. On representations made to this effect we have been able, however, to obtain a considerable additional allotment in the space accorded to the British Empire over and above that granted us in the special colonial building.

IN COLONIAL BUILDING.

The colonial building finally decided upon, situated on the Trocadero grounds, overlooking the Champ de Mars, not far from the great Eiffel Tower, covers 36,000 square feet, of which Canada has been allotted 27,000 square feet. In the Canadian portion of this building exhibits of all characters and classes can be placed, the space being entirely within the control of the Canadian authorities.

The general plan of the exhibition is to have the exhibits divided by classes in 18 general groups, according to their nature, without respect to the country from which they come. Thus, the portion of the Imperial space which has been granted to Canada, apart from the colonial building, is distributed through the different buildings according to the different classes, and in this space the exhibits must appear as exhibits of the British Empire, and cannot be grouped as coming especially from Canada, although each exhibit will be clearly marked with the name and full address of the exhibitor.

To education is assigned the distinction of being the first group in the general classification of Canada's exhibits, as follows: Class 1, training of children, primary education, teaching of adults; class 2, secondary education; class 3, higher education, science schools; class 4, teaching of fine art, including music; class 5, special agricultural education; class 6, special industrial and commercial teaching. Other groups are as follows:

Group 2, works of art; 3, appliances and general processes relating to literature, science and art; 4, mechanical engineering; 5, electricity; 6, civil engineering, transportation; 7, agriculture; 8, horticulture and arboriculture; 9, forest, sport, fishing, gathering wild crops; 10, food products; 11, mining, metallurgy; 12, decoration and furniture of public buildings and of dwelling houses; 13, thread, yarns, textile fabrics, clothing; 14, chemical industries; 15, various industries; 16, social economy, hygiene, public charitable relief; 17, colonization; 18, army and navy.

Awards to exhibitors will take the form of diplomas signed by the minister of commerce and by the commissaire-general. They will consist of grand prize, grand medal, silver medal, bronze medal and honorable mention diplomas.

Each exposition in France has marked an epoch in one particular branch of art or industry. In 1889 visitors marvelled at the machine gallery, that immense cage of glass and iron created through the genius of Dutert, and the Eiffel tower, a defiance to the clouds, the stupefaction of the masses and the puzzle of the calculators, who could never agree upon the number of pieces of iron used in the construction. These two structures marked the engineering and iron manufacturing era in France.

Stone sculpture and masonry form a feature to astonish the visitors of 1900 as much as iron in 1889. The French architects in building the present palaces have substituted stone in their buildings in the place of much of the iron structure work which has played so important a part in the great buildings of the last generation.

The Grand Palace upon the Champs Elysees is particularly rich in sculpture. It is built entirely of stone and stretches from the Avenue des Champs Elysees to Cours la Reine, and from the new Avenue Nicholas II. to the Avenue d'Antin. The palace has absorbed in construction 459,000 cubic feet of stone. The centre roof is a mass of iron framework covered with glass. Beneath this all the large pieces of sculpture are exhibited. The great galleries running around the building are devoted to paintings.

WEEKLY WEATHER REPORT.

Victoria Meteorological Office,
April 25th to May 1st, 1900.

In this section of the province the weather for the past week has been most unusually fine, and bright sunshine, warm days, and cool nights have been the rule. The barometer has ranged from 29.98 to 30.31 in.

There has been no rainfall, and the sunshine recorder has registered nearly 90 hours of bright sunshine. On the 25th, a moderate westerly gale occurred. Areas of low pressure have occupied Cariboo and snow has fallen at Barkerville and Calgary.

Records of Other Stations.

New Westminster: Range of barometer, 29.88 to 30.34; no rain; highest temperature, 78 on 30th; lowest, 36 on 6th and 7th.

Kamloops: Range of barometer, 29.80 to 30.44; no rain; highest temperature, 80, on 1st inst.; lowest, 36, on 28th.

Barkerville: Range of barometer, 29.78 to 30.46; precipitation, .02; highest temperature, 76, on 29th and 1st; lowest, 26, on 25th and 28th.

Rainfall appears to be needed again in most places.

From Mr. Sell's preface to his tremendous list of telegraphic addresses, we learn that 87,000,000 telegrams were handled last year by Her Majesty's Post Office; this exceeds by 10,000,000 the number of prepaid letters sent through the post in the year when the Queen came to the throne, and is an increase of 4,000,000 over the number of telegrams in 1898. The world could be belted four times with the telegraph forms used. If these were put end to end. There are 11,000 telegraph offices in the United Kingdom, and the extension of the system is proceeding.

Queen Victoria is about to publish another selection from her diaries, according to the Outlook. The profits will go to one of the war funds.

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Having received the nomination at the People's Convention, I beg to announce that I will be a candidate at the forthcoming provincial election. I am in favor of the platform of the present government, but that the choice of a leader should be left to the members elected to support that policy.

I am, yours respectfully,
GEORGE SANGSTER.

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Boers in Free State A Realize Hopelessne Their Position

New Gun at Warren courages Them—W News From Mafek

London, May 6.—(4:20 a.m. has been confidently expect news of the relief of Mafe midnight, but at this hour th states that no further intel been received of Hunter's which the public believed ha signed the work of relieving

Beyond further details of tion of Brandfort little or come during the night. A de Thaba N'chu dated May 4 sa situation has practically unch Boers hold their position and sional shells into the British the top of Thaba N'chu hill over the Boer camp, where is exceedingly difficult, an which a number of Boers are

It is learned that the Boers to draw supplies from Lad trict.

The 17th brigade has moved south, presumably to assist bant if necessary.

A despatch from Aliwal N May 5 says: "Three hundre cattle and horses were brou night. The wounded are bei ly moved here from Mafeteng

A despatch from Capet "The general feeling here, i ficial circles participate, is Roberts' advance toward P be rapid. The Boer prison anticipate that any effective will be encountered. Anxiety garding the fate of Mr. Regb been arrested in connection blowing up of the shell fac hannesburg. Consul Hay is the accused man's interests.

Warrenton, May 5.—The B vainly attemped to reach new gun with their artillery of the shells from the big gun silenced them.

Natives report that the Bo cating Christiana, many of mitting that the situation and apparently are trekking Dam and Windsorton northw

THE PRISONERS AT P

Their Treatment ... Such for Serious Prote

Washington, May 5.—Refe statement in the House of C terday by Mr. Balfour, the leader, who said that Her government was considering bility of further representat this government as to the English prisoners at Pretor partment officials say that government had made no rep of late on this subject. T partment is in receipt of re gular intervals from U. S. at Pretoria in which he n describe the condition of the From his reports it appear their condition is not all t be, still the Boers probably them with as much consider are able to exercise at pres Hay has been doing every power to add to the comfor oners in accordance with his and the British authoritie pressed their gratitude for fices. His task has been a but it appears that he has charged it in such manner giving offence to the Boer whom he is on excellent ter

Lord Pauncefote, the Br sador, called upon Secretar state department to-day, fresh representations to th ernment touching the treat prisoners.

CANADIAN DEATH

Montreal Business Man's A Liquor Dealer's S

Montreal, May 5.—Ale manager of the Sabiston L Co., accidentally shot himse ing. He was examining his new premises on St. J when the weapon, it is belie ally, discharged, the bullet head. The injured man to the General Hospital, an hour later without re sciousness. Sabiston was business and social circles.

Colborne, May 5.—Naths a pioneer and one of the and prosperous farmers township, is dead, aged 78.

London, May 5.—A. W aged 52, a partner in the fi Woodward, wholesale li committed suicide this mor ing. His mind is supposed unhinged by severe illness.

Stephen Turrill, the well ket gardener and florist o dead, aged 58 years.

YARMOUTH BYE-EI

Yarmouth, N.S., May 5. bye-election for the local fill the vacancy caused by of Mr. Law, have been issu tions take place on May 5, tions on May 22.

SHIPLOAD OF LE

Montreal, May 5.—Steam the Thomson line, has arri 14,000,000 lemons from ports.

DIED IN AFRI

Chambersburg, Pa., Ma of Bishop Jesse Engle, Brethren church, have be his death near Buluwayo,