LADYSMITH DAILY LEDGER

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TYEE COMPANY HAS DECLARED DIVIDEND

Two Shillings a Share After Providing a Large Reserve Fund and Making Many Inprovements

A Hundred and Eighty Thousaud Dollars Paid in Profits Since Smelter Has Been in Operation

The Tyee Copper Company, Limited, has declared a dividend of two shillings per share, payable on the fifteenth of December. This brings the total dividends paid since starting smelting operations in January, 1903, to four shillings per share, or $189,000. Besides the distribution of this sum of money, a large reserve fund has accumulated, which is invested in Government stocks. In addition to this, extensive improvements have been made in the plant and buildings at both mine and smelter, all of which have been paid out of profits.

This succinct statement of the Tyee Company contains news af the greatest importance to the mining industry in this portion of the province. To have made all the extensive improvements at mine and smelter, to have set aside a large reserve fund, and to have paid out in dividends the large sum of $180,000 in less than two years after the smelter started on a class of ore that offered at first some problems in smelting that had to be overcome by practice speaks wonders for the skilful management. The record is one to be proud of and the success of the undertaking will undoubtedly draw more attention to this part of the Island from mining men.

A dividend paying mine is worth all kinds of prospects.

NO SPOIL SPORT.

New York, Nov. 26. —Mayor McLelland has vetoed the bill recently passed by the Board of Aldermen, forbidding any contest or race of endurance of more than three hours daily. The mayor says his disapproval is given because the ordinance constitutes an unwarrantable interference with the ordinary exercise of personal rights of citizens. Aside from the consideration that the bill would entail a large and unnecessary burden to the already overtaxed police and health departments.

BANK BURST.

O'Neil, Neb., Nov. 26.—The Elkhorn Valley Bank failed to open its doors for business yesterday and its president and cashier could not be found in the city. The officers of the bank according to a statement given to the press by the wife of Bernard McGreevy, president of the bank are in a bad condition. McGreevy'a statement charges that Cashier Patrick Haggerty overdrew his account in large amounts.

JAPANESE PARLIAMENT

The Japanese house of commons, or house of representatives as it is really called, is like most other institutions af modern Japan in that it is quite new and has been carefully established on the best models throughout the civilized world.

AnEnglish politician who not long ago visited Tokyo, and had the opportunity of seeing the parliament at work, declared to the writer that it was by a long way the most business like parliament in the world. In no other is there anything like so little talk in proportion to the amount of solid work done.

Speech-making on the part of the Japanese member of parliament is discouraged to the utmost, and a government bill of extreme importance, such as a home rule bill, if there were occasion to bring one forward, would be debated and either passed or rejected in less than a week. Four or five new acts of all sorts are an average week's work. This is because it is a rule that when the government or a private member wishes to introduce a new bill, it is not allowed to be presented direct to the house at the outset It must first be submitted to a committee, who in private make a thorough examination of it, and digest all the arguments for and against which are likely to be advanced concerning it. Then the committee sends the bill along to the house with a lengthy report upon it, and in nine cases out often the parliament is guided by the reaort, and decided upon the measure with but very little discussion.

There are 376 members in the Japanese house of commons, and each one of them is paid at the rate of over £16 a week for his servicee, although they are elected by constituencies is just the same manner as in this country. The actual fee paid to them is £200 a session; but a session only lasts twelve weeks. All these M.P.'s are known not by name, nor even as the honorable member for this or that constituency, but by a distinguishing number.

When one is elected he is given such a number, and for the purpose of identification afterwards he is usually referred to as "Sixty-seven," or whatever he may be. This number is painted in big figures on a hinged flap which is attached to his desk in the parliament chamber, and as soon as he takes his seat he lifts up the flap on its hinge as a token that he is then at work for the day. When he leaves the sitting he lays his number flat again.

During a debate, whenever he wants to express approval or disapproval of what is being said or to attract attenelon to his own claims to be allowed to speak, he does so by rattling his flap, and by long practice he has brought himself to such a degree of skill in the process that he can make more noise in this way than any other.

When he wants to make a speech he further emphasizes his desire by shouting out his number as loudly as he can, and if the president of the chamber chooses him for the next oration he does so by simply repeating this number.

The chamber is semi-circular in shape, and the members sit together at little groups of desks, three or four together, all around. In the centre is a high elevated tribune, and when a member speaks he ascends it for that purpose, and thus is in full view of the whole house. Just behind him sits the president, with a big bell at his right hand, which he rings loudly whenever there is any indication of a breach of order.

The Japanese parliament is the only one in the world which has a complete set of absolutely verbatim reports of its proceedings from the very commencement. Shortly before its establishment a body of students joined together and invented a system of shorthand which was capable of grappling with the difficulties of the Japanese language, and after a little practice they found that they were able to keep pace with the fastest speakers. Then, when the new parliament was formed, some of these stenographers were engaged for it, and thus it happens that every word spoken in the house of representatives in Tokyo from the very first has been taken down and carefully preserved.

CHURCH BURNED.

Branford, Conn., Nov. 26. — St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church, one of the most costly in the state and dedicated lass than a year ago, was totally destroyed by fire last night. The loss is estimated at $30,000. Nothing remains but four bleak walls

FOUNDRY DOING RUSHING BUSINESS

Couple of Men Added to Force Owing to Increase in Orders

One Addition Almost Finished Another Building to Go Up at Once

The addition to the present foundry building of the Ladysmith Iran and Stove Works Company, is nearing completion and will be ready on Tuesday or Wednesday. The extra space of seventy-five feet by nineteen is very necessary, as the foundry at present is very busy, a couple of men having been added to the force in order to keep up with the orders now on hand. The new building, a description of which appeared some weeks ago in the Ledger is to be erected at once and a bigger boiler will be installed on account of the increase in the machinery. Just as soon as the buildings are ready and the machinery in place the stove making will start. The patterns have been ordered and a steel range will be turned out here better than anything now made in the Dominion, made of heavier material than now manufactured in the East while sold at the same price. With such an advantage, besides the fact of the freight rates handicapping eastern makes, the Ladysmith works will nave a fine field to cover in this province and can also ship to the Northwest. Stove founding is a business with an immense future before it. The big eastern foundries have some of them doubled their capacity in a very few years, and with the growth and increase of population in British Columbia, the outlook here is exceedingly good for a large and progressive business.

The sale of stock since the company was recently enlarged and incorporated has been ver8 satisfactory giving as it does a fine opportunity to invest in a profitable and growing business.

SPORTS

The association football intermediates and juniors will play off the tie tomorrow at 2 o'clock on the bunker grounds.

LEAGUE MATCH TONIGHT.

The Opera House should be crowded tonight for the basketball games with Nanaimo. Mr. Nicholson has made a much desired improvement raising the seats from the front of the stage back, so that the people behind can have as good a view as those in the front rows. This will enable double the number of spectators to be accommodated. There is a change in the intermediate teaml S. Morrison is unfortunately unable to play, so the team will be composed of guards, Leahy, Dunbar; centre, T. O'Connell; forwards, J. Sanderson and C. Hewlett.

A. Morrison has taken A. Hailstones place on the Senior team, so they will line up as follows:

Ladysmith—Guards, J. Eno, A. Morrison; centre, J. Adam; forwards, C. McMillan, E. Leahy.

Hornets—Guards, C. O'Brien, V. Stewart; centre A. Stewart; forwards, D. Ferguson, W. Graham.

The first maech starts at half past seven.

AT THE ABBOTSFORD.

F. Sutherland, Vancouver.
A. H. McIntosh, New York.
A. Vaughan, Victoria.
A. C. Stewart, Vancouver.

DUCHESS SMOKED OUT,

London, Nov. 26.—Dowager Duchess of Manchester had a narrow escape from asphyxiation this morning. She woke up in her house in Portman Square and found the room full of smoke. She ran out and aroused the servants who called the fire brigade After some difficulty the fire was located on the floor beneath the Duchess' rooms, which was found to be due to the overheating of a beam, and was quickly put out.

BAD MANAGEMENT ON RAILWAY

Russian Officials of Trans-Siberian Road Accused of Incapacity

Transportation Facilities Poor and Handling of Wounded Gauses Great Suffering

St. Petersburg, Nov. 26.—A correspondent returning to the front after having been wounded at Liao Yang and convalescing at Moscow, writes, severely criticizing the traffic arrangements on the Siberian railway. He says that hospital trains discharging wounded at Moscow are returning to the froat absolutely empty, though the hospitals in the field and at the base urgently need medicine, bandages and surgical appliances, and the only excuse for not sending them has been the alleged lack of transportation facilities on the railway. The correspondent says that enough empty trains are going back to the frant, not only to carry hospital material, but that they could easily hasten the arrival of reinforcements. The correspondent describes the hospital arrangements at Irkutsk, Omak and Tscheliabinsk, as wholly inadequate, while the frequent transfers of the wounded from train to train entail unnecessary hardshipx. Almost all the suffering from the congestion of traffic, it is added is due to the administrative incapacity of the railway officials.

KILLED BY PUBLIC.

London, Nov. 26.—The verdict of the audience of the night of the first production of "The Flute of Pan," at the Shaftsbury Theatre, Nov. 12, has been endorsed by the public, at the end of a fortnight's struggle. Olga Nethersole has decided to withdraw Mrs. Cragie's play after tonight's perfarmance.

MARINE

Steamer Farallon was in port last night toad coal for Alaska.

* * *

Tug Escort towed the barge Georgian out last night.

* * *

The Albion is here to take the Japan to Comox with coal for the coke ovens.

* * *

Owing to the sinking of the little Steamer Iris in Vancouver Narrows, the Bermuda arrived today with a scow for brick to replace those lost in the wreck. The Iris was bound to Texada Island when she hit the Capilano sand bar near Prospect Point and then was carried by the swift current into deep water and went to the bottom. Her passengers and crew were all saved.

* * *

The steamer Viking which is described by some of the papers as an enormous steamer on her way to load at Ladysmith is by no means a giant, her toonage beiog only 914. As she only arrived at Portland on the 18th from Japan she would hardly be ready yet to come here for a fresh cargo.

* * *

The Leelenaw arrived in Tacoma on Thursday from the Treadwell mines with 2,050 tons of concentrates valued at $110,000, the largest and most valuable cargo of the kind ever sent from Alaska. The Leelenaw is expected back at Ladysmith about Monday to load coal for Douglas Island.

* * *

The hulks Oregon and Richard III., which have been laid off the Alaska run since the Leelenaw has been chartered will likely be in service again in March taking coal from Ladysmith to the new smelter at Hadley, north of Ketchikan and returning south with copper ore for Tacoma.

* * *

Steamship Quito which is to be the first steamer on the newly subsidized service between British Columbia ports and Mexico is not unknown in Ladysmith, as she has called here three or four times for coal. She was noted because her Master, Capt. Shotton was the youngest captain in the marine service and also because she was the vessel that when the Indian famine was raging, carried across to that country from Portland, Oregon, the cargo of flour sent by the Christian Herald. She is loading on the Sound now for the Orient and on her return will likely make her first trip from British Columbia to Mexico.

SMALL ENGAGEMENTS AT LONE TREE HILL

Japanese Attack Russian Positions But Fighting Not of Very Strenuous Character—Country Snowbound

Remnants of Vla livostock Squadron in Badly Crippled C nditron According to Reports From That Place

(Associated Press Despatches.)

Mukden, Nov. 26.—The Japanese, Nav. 24, again made a preliminary bombardment of Poutiloff (Lone Tree Hill) under the cover of which they attacked, but were repulsed. There were encounters at other places along the front but they were in the nature of small brushes and mostly took place at night. Yesterday there was a light fall of snow and the surrounding country has all the appearance of winter.

CRIPPLED WARSHIPS.

Nagasaki, Nov. 26. — A foreigner who left Vladivostock last Monday, says that during the past month, 20 steamers have arrived at Vladivostock bringing coal and sundries He also confirms previous reports that the Rassian protected cruiser Bogatyr, though not docked, is unserviceable and is supported forward by pontoons. The armored cruiser Gromoboi has, he says, twenty-five frames broken and is badly strained. Repairs on her will require some months. A submarine boat which was brought from St. Petersburg has completed several trials satisfactorily. The location of harbor defence mines is undertain and as a result, torpedo boat destroyer No. 208 has been sunk and a German steamer has been damaged by coming in contact with mines.

AT SUEZ.

Suez, Nov. 26.—The Russian battleship Siesoi Veliky, flabship of Rear Admiral Voelkersam, and the Navarin arrived here today from Port Said. The flagship exchanged salutes with the British cruiser Hermiene, while the band of the Navarin played the British anthem followed by the Marsellaise and the Kkedivial Hymn.

STUDT LACKS HORSE SENSE

New York, Nov. 26.—A Berlin despatch to the Times says: "Hans Herr Von Ostans, the extraordinary Orloff stallion, has become a political issue in Prussia. Several members of the diet are highly indignant on account of the enthusiasm which Dr. Studt, the minister of education displayed over the animal's powers, and he will be questioned in the house regarding the matter. An interesting debate is expected. It is said that Hans nearly caused a split in the ministry. The story goes that Dr. Studt wanted the animal to display his powers before Emperor William and that the other ministers strongly opposed the plan. Thereupon it is asserted Dr. Studt threatened to resign. It is said that the dispute was smoothed over for the time being, but it is likely to come up again. Scientific circles are still displaying intense interest in the alleged powers of the horse. Another commission of scientists has been examining the animal and its report will soon be made public.

VISITING THE LEPERS

The Albion was off today for Victoria whence she takes aboard a cargo of memqers of the aldermanic board, the health inspector, medical health officer and probable a few extras for Darcy Island. This is a sort of winding up visit to the leper island, as the Provincial government is taking charge of the unfortunates, relieving the various cities in the province of their disagreeable duties. If the weather is fairly nice and the sea not rough, an official visit to Darcy Island, provided it is merely a visit, is not unpleasant, as the Victoria civic authorities are nretty good company.

KNIGHTS HAVE A GOOD TIME

Both Lodges of the Knights of Pythias gathered last evening to receive Grand Chancellor Ferguson, who was making his official visit. After business was disposed af the visiting officers were entertained at a banquet, the Rathbone Sisters having attended to the preparation of this enjoyable part of the evening's entertainment. C. C., William Cosier, of Damon Lodge, No. 8, presided and the Grand Chancellor under good of the order, spoke of the satisfactory condition of the order as seen in his present visit throughout the province. G. K. of R., Emil Pferdner, G. M. of S., Thomas Walker, Messrs. Penketh, Simpson and J. Lewis gave short addresses, interspersed with songs by Lewis Brothers, John Thomas, W. G. Simpson, J. Lewis, Shanks, Penketh, Jesse Evans and John Bellis. The evening passed so pleasantly that it was toward the morning hours before the guests parted.

DISMANTLING WORLD'S FAIR

St. Louis, Nov. 26.—Promptly at midnight December, 1, a force of 75 men employed by the General Service Company of the Louisiana Purchase Exposition, will shunt 200 freight cars loaded with empty packing cases into the several exhibit palaces and the work of dismantling the World's Fair, will begin. Mr. Pephenneger, of Seattle, has been adpointed general superintendent of the General Service company and declares that all the exhibits will be out of the exposition grounds by March 1st.

SMASHED BY TRAIN.

Dunkirk, Nov. 26.—The Lake Shore Limited train, No. 22, east bound, running at a high speed, crashed into a chemical wagon of the Dunkirk fire department at Central avenue crossing today, killing Frank Miller, aged 23 years, a fireman and injuring three others, all of the injured will recover. The wagon was demolished, but the horses escaped injury.

Mrs. Askit—Your new boarder does not look very well, Mrs. Boardum. What's the trouble with him?

Mrs. Boardum—Why, I don't know, but they say the poor fellow has a saxaphone—Chicago News.

LADYSMITH LEDGER

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CANADA'S DEFENDERS.

Does our Canadian Militia department aspire to follow in the footsteps of the war office and obtain a reputation for continual blundering? While reform is being pressed on the military authorities in the Old Country, we seem to have picked up some of the stupid features that are being discarded there, a mania for changes that make the poor milicia, man not know after some new fangled system is iatroduced, how soon another is to take its place. It is a very short time indeed since there were issued from Ottawa a couple of drill books popularly known as "Dundonald's Drill." One related to cavalry and the other to infantry, the idea being to graft one on the other so that the foot soldier might be utilized as mounted infantry. To accomplish this, the formations and movements of companies were such that the infantry drill partook of the character of cavalry movements. The volunteer was to suppose himself mounted on a horse and had to form fours, wheel and generally conduct himself as if he were astride of a fiery charger. The change was very unpopular and it was found that the general purpose soldier was hardly more successful than the long, long search the farmer has had for the general purpose cow. Now, after the volunteer has been trying to forget his old drill and break himself into the new, the militia department suddenly issued ordees recalling the Dundonald drill books and reverting to the drill for Shank's mare prescribed for the regular army. The make is probably a common-sense one, if it is kept within bounds. What the Canadian militia needs is as simple a drill as possible compatible with ability to move bodies of men without getting in a tangle. They do not require a lot of ceremonial drill which is all very proper for regular soldiers who have nothing else to do. Mobility and the most efficient use of the rifle is what the Canadian infantryman needs above all things; and commonsense that should teach what is reqdired in a practical way. To switch and change merely befogs and bewilders instead of trainiag. While on the subject it may be noted that the long promised move for a ngval militia is to be made at the next session of parliament. A force of 800 permanent mea is proposed, with a volunteer force of 3,000 distributed to the Atlantic and Pacific, and the Great Lakes. The cruiser Canada is to be utilized for a trainiag ship this winter for a cruise to the West Indies as a commencement. This seems a very sensible move. Canada has as fine a race of sailors as the world possesses, our hardy fishermen and the great number of young fellows on our immense sea coasts being particularly good material for building up a naval force. The experimental stages once passed, we can build up here in time a force that will prove of great service to the country should it ever be required. It will, of course, take some time to train Canadian officers to command the force, but no doubt the government has that important subject in mind and we shall, one of these days, be turning out naval officers with as great success as that excellent institution the military college at Kingston is training officers for the land forces.

St. Petersburg, Nov. 25.— According to the best information obtainable the Zemstvos memorial is still under consideration at Tsarskoe. Emperor Nicholas is said to be under no illusions regarding the gravity of his decision and is gaining the memorial the most careful and earnest consideration. By some, he is represented as greatly concerned and grieved over the situation both at home and abroad, to be weary of war and ready to welcome any honorable means to bring the war to a conclusion, and anxious to remove the cause for discontent and secure tranquility at home. The influences surrounding him, however, are said to be almost entirely hostile to concessions. Fear is expressed that if the whole Zemstvos programme is rejected there may be a revival of the old Terroristi days. The Emperor is said to have been acquainted with interior ministes Sviatopolk Mirsky's irrevocable decision not to remaia in the ministry if the policy of liberalism on which he went into office is abandoned. The re-actionaries and bureaucrats profess to see no danger in the present situation, declaring that the agitation provoked by the Zemstvos will soon sink out of sight and affairs resume their normal way.

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CANADA'S INDIANS.

The Department of Indian Affairs has received the figures of the Indian population for the year ending June 30, 1904. The population is 107,978, compared with 108,233 for last year, a decrease of 265. There was, however, an increase in the population last year over 1902. In 1902 the Indian population was 99,717. The figures show a general increase aad point to the fact that the red people are being carefully looked after as wards of the Dominion.

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Time Table No. 53.

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Northbound Leave	Southbound Daily A.M.	Northbound Arrive P. M.	Leave	Sat, Sun and Wed P. M.	Southbound Arrive P. M.
Victoria	9:00	12:06	Victoria	3:00	7:00
Shawnigan Lake	10:20	10:46	Shawnigan Lake	4:20	5:40
Duncans	11:00	10:02	Duncans	5:00	5:00
Ladysmith	11:57	9:10	Ladysmith	5.52	4:00
Nanaimo	12:40	8:20	Nanaimo	6:42	3:15
Ar. Wellington	12:53	Lv 8:00	Ar Wellington	6:55 de	3:00

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AN ISLAND MILLIONAIRE

It falls to the lot of but few mortals to be styled kings or governors os island domains, but such is the good fortune of Max Schlemmer, who arrived in Port Townsend recently as a passenger on the schooner Robert Lewers.

Mr. Schlemmer, or Governor Schlemmer, as he is known in the little group of islands in the Pacific where he handles the reins of government to suit his own fancy, is a German by birth but an American by adoption. More than twenty years ago, he left the Pacific coast for Honolulu, seeking to make a competency for himself. He remained there for many years, working at many things until he became an employee of the Pacific Guano and Fertilizer Company, which has a lease on the Laysan group of islands from the Hawaiian government. The Laysan group lies 900 miles southwest from Honolulu and 300 miles distant from the Midway islands. There are 3 islands in the group, and the formation is coral.

These islands are veritable mines, where millions of tons of guano is deposited a few feet below the surface, The company referred to did a thriving business, and Mr. Schlemmer, through close application to business, worked himself up in the company's employ from the foot of the ladder to manager, After a time, he secured an interest, and later the controlling interest, and a few years ago he had made enough money and knew enough about the business to tackle it on his own account. He made overtures to the old compaay, with the result that he became the sole proprietor and Max Schlemmer now works the rich deposits under his own name as the successor of the company.

The Laysan Islands, by reason of having been a part of the Hawaiian Kingdom are now virtually United States territory. The old lease secured by the Pacific Guano and Fertilizer Company, under which Governor Schlemmer now operates, has still nine years to run, with the provision that it may be extended for another long period at his option.

Gov. Schlemmen has no palace, no uniformed staff officials, and neither army nor navy. Despite all this, he gets along charmingly. He is a married man and his wife and seven children reside with him in the lonely island group. He has a comfortable residence, of large dimensions, no lack of servants, and lives in a style becoming a ruler, albeit a small one. His subjects number but 100, and they are all directly under his supervisian and in his pa] as laborers in the guano deposits. They are all coolies from the Orient, and there is not a*single white person on the three islands aside from Gov. Schlemmer and his family.

Schlemmer is now a rich man, although one would never know it from his appearance, talk or demeanor. He is unassuming to a degree, and reluctantly speaks of his achievements. Laysan island, which is the larger of the three, and the one from which the group derives its name, is now nearly worked out, all the work of extracting guano having been confined to it. In the near future, one of the islands will be worked, and they will last a great many years, as neither one of them has yet been touched.

The annual output of guano from Governor Schlemmer's domain amounts to about 45,000 tons. It is shipped in vessels chartered for the purpose to Honolulu, where the guano is used as fertilizer on the sugar plantations. As the stuff brings from $35 to $60 a ton, the profit can well be imagined. The cost of transportation amounts to less than $5 a ton and the labor is cheap.

BECOMES LOYAL SUBJECT

Ex-President Steyn is returning to South Africa, and sails for the Cape early in January, after taking the oath of fealty to King Edward VII. This move on his part has creaced much astonishment among those who during the South African war went by the name of pro-Boers. For they recall that the last president of the Orange Free State, once he had thrown in his lot with the Transvaal, showed himself even still more irreconcilable and bitter against the English than President Kruger, that he found means to avoid signing the peace conditions, and how, when he was conveyed to Europe, apparently in a dying condition, he spurned to touch the soil of England, and he preferred the fatigues and danger of a difficult trans-shipment at sea from one boat to another, off Southamoton, rather than to land at the wharf and re-embark there.

The ex-president has almost entirely recovered his health, and with its return he has been able to take a more philosophical view of conditions in South Africa. To enquiries as to the reasons that have led him to make his peace with England, following the example of Gens. Botha, Delarey and De Wet, he has explained, "Tout est comsomme la bas" (everything is settled dawn there), meaning, of course, that nothing remains to be done in South Africa but to accept the accomplished facts and put the best face possible upon the matter.

JAPAN'S ARMED STRENGTH

Outsiders are not able to form an accurate opinion of the real condition of the military resources of Japan, writes Jihel Hashigushi, in the World's Work. Even the aympathetic people of Europe and America are in the dark on the subject. I have been informed by an intimate friend, who has been in the service of the Japanese army for three years, that Japan can call into service at short notice 1,500,000 men of strong physique, besides the large national guard; for, according to his information, 539,282 men — which was the number eligible for conscription in 1901—had no objectionable physical defect, and belonged to the first class, as shown by physical examination. The men who belonged to the second class had merely slight defects in the eyes or in some bodily function. As for the naval force, 27,865 men—the total number of seamen in the actioe, and first and second reserve, services—are of the best physique. In case of necessity, more than double this number can be recruited from the merchant marine, as well as from the eager applicants for admission to the service. One million, five hundred thousand is a very large number, but it is a small number of 8,034,089, which is the number of males fron 17 to 40, who were available for conscription service in 1898.

Foreigners are apt to suppose that the flower of the Japanese soldiers and sailors are necessarily the young men of the Samurai class on whom too much eulogy has already been lavished. True, the Samurai class have long been the flower of Japanese fighters; and indeed, most of the generals and admirals, and other high officers, are still of the Samurai class; but the rank and file of the army and navy today are composed more of plebians, than of the patrician Samurai class.

It is undeniable that the flower of the Japanese fighters are now at the front. Among the dead in the battles of the Yalu, Nanskau, Telissu, Port Arthur and Liao Yang are included some of the best men in the service. Japan can ill afford to lose these men at the front. f the slaughter at Liao Yang be repeated in many other battles, the effective strength of the Japanese army will be greatly lessened. But, in the opinion of many eminent authorities, assuming Japan's continued success, the active warfare will not last long after Harbin falls into the hands of the Japanese, although minor details of the war may continue to make slight troubles. Then Japan will not need to maintain such an enormnus force at the front. A greater part of the army will be withdrawn, leaving a sufficient force to guard the frontiers of Mancnuria, while China, to which Manchuria will be returned, will send her own troops to supersede the Japanese soldiers.

NOTICE

Messrs. Blair & Adam have secured the agency of the Chrystal Laundry Co. to Victoria. All parcels and orders left with them will receive prompt and careful attention.

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NOTICE.

TAKE NOTICE that at the next sitting of the License Commissioners for South Nanaimo, to be held at the Court House in Ladysmith, on Thursday, December 15, 1904, at 10 o'clock a.m., we intend to apply for a transfer of the retail liquor license granted to George Taylor, deceased, for the "Wheatsheaf Hotel", Cedar District, to James Yates.

WM. TAYLOR,
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Administrators estate of Geo. Taylor, deceased.

Dated at Cedar District, B. C., Nov. 10, 1904.

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For late papers, magazines amd stationery, go to Knight's on First Avenue.

FOR SALE.
A LARGE RAFT 16 x30 built on large cedar logs at a bargain. Very suitable for a boat house. Apply The Ladysmith Lumber Co.

Call at Hoy's Bakery for apples, lemon, pear and mincemeat pies; cookies of all kinds at all prices. Doughnuts 10c per dozen.

The First Avenue Barber Shop is doing a good business. Everybody well treated.

FOR SALE—Flower pots in all sizes at cost. Apply to Mrs. Marshall, Esplanade. tf

Ask for it once and you will afterwards smoke the Empire.

FOR SALE—Several secondhand and new fire proof safes, for sale cheap. Write Thomas Plimley, Victoria, B C., Central Cycle Depot, opposite Post Office. 8t

FOR SALE—Cheap—A fine Parlor Organ. Apply to Mrs. H. Pollard or at The Ledger Office.

LOCAL ITEMS

Miss Teague, of Nanaimo, is visiting Mrs, P. D. Johnston.

Mr. Cecil, superintendent of the Victoria mine, went to Victoria on the morning's train.

Rev. E. H. Shanks and Revival Band are holding services in the opera house every evening at 8. Free to all. Everybody invited.

J. Warnock, who has been here on one of his periodical business trips, left to-day for the Fraser to arrange for the shipping of grain and hay to fill orders.

G. K. of R. and S., Emil Pferdner, of the Knights of Pythias left this morning for Victoria. G. M. of C., Walker went to Nanaimo this morning and returned this evening to join Grand Chancellor Ferguson in his visit tonight to to the Duncan Lodge.

Mr. D. W. Higgins' book, "The Mystic Spriag," of which a review appeared in the Ledger some time ago is still finding a large sale. Many copies are being purchased by persons resicent in the province for mailing to friends in the East and Europe to give people there an idea of early life in British Columbia.

REVIVAL MISSION.

There was a good attendance at the Opera House last evening. During the song service, some new songs were taken up with considerable enthusiasm. Among them the "glory Song," which has been a general favorite wherever it has been introduced. "Count your Blessing," is also greatly enjoyed. After the song service Rev. Mr. Piercy, of Chemainus, read the Scriptures, Mark v., 22-13, and Mrs. Shanks sang "Dream of Paradise."

Rev. Mr. Shanks then spoke on the subject: "When Jesus Comes," showing the results of his coming, the blessings that follow in his wake, and joy of his presence. The audience gave the most careful attention throughout the service, joining heartily in each part of it. There is to be no meeting this evening; but one will begin with a song service at 8 o'clock tomorrow evening. The subject will be "The Necessity of the New Birth." All meetings are free and everybody is invited.

Revival services in the opera house each evening except Saturday at 8 o'clock.

METHODIST CHURCH.
Rev. W. C. Schlichter, pastor.
Morning Service—11 a. m.
Sunday School—2.30 p. m.
Evening Service—7 p m.
Rev. Mr. Shanks preaches in the morning, on "Life's Highest Law," and the pastor preaches in the evening.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Rev. R. Boyle, pastor.
Morning Service—11 a.m.
Sabbath School—2.30 p.m.
Evening Service—7 p.m.
Bible study class, Wednesday evening at 7.30.
In the morning there will be ordination of Elders and in the evening Mrs. Shanks will sing.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND.
Rev. R. Bowen, Rector.
Morning Service—11 a.m.
Children's Sunday School—2.30 p.m
Evening Service—7 p. m.

ENFORCING FRUIT ACT

Maxwell Smith, of Vancouver, Dominion government fruit inspector for the west, has been paying one of his regular afficial visits to Nelson and reports a very satisfactory improvement in the fruit packages found on the market here at present, as compared with those of last year. The inspector also reports a large increase in the importations of Ontario apples into Alberta, where he has been spending the past two weeks and of a better grade than last year although there is much to be desired in the grading of both Ontario and British Columbia apples, and a still higher standard will be expected next year.

Mr. Smith says that the provincial ruit pest inspectors are to be congratulated on the rigid enforcement of the law against the imhortation of infected fruit from the south, and the wholesale importers in the district are now givibg careful attention to the grading and marking of foreign fruit in accordance with the provisions of the Dominion Fruit Marks Act.

Mr. Smith admitted that he had found several cases of false markiag and improper packing on his present tour that would probably result in the prosecution of both the Ontario and British Columbia shippers, but declined to give any particulars pending investigation. It is evident, however, that the inspector intends to steadily and relentlessly tighten the grip of the law on offenders against the Dominion regulations until a dishonest or slovenly package of fruit will be the exception west of Medicine Hat, and north of the international line]

"When here last August," said Mr Smith, "I was pleased to find such a lively interest taken in the dedelopment of the fruit growing industry in the lower Kootenay, and I hope those starting out as orchardists have not forgotten the advice offered on that occasion, viz., to restrict their planeing to a very few well known and tried commercial varieties. Too many varieties are always a hindrance to success in any locality. Make a reputation for two or three popular commercial apples, put them up strictly in accordance with the provisions of the Fruit Marks Act and there will be no difficulty about selling all you can produce at paying prices."

The Empire Cigar is made in La-Havana.

ST. LAWRENCE ICE BREAKERS

Within the next thirty days Canadians will, in all probability, have demonstrated to them the feasibility of late autumn and early winter navigation between the cities of Montreal and Quebec.

The possibility of keeping the St. Lawrence open to steamships late in the autumn and opening again early in the spring, are problems which the scientific minds in the Dominion have been considering, and now, if eherything goes well, a fair trial will be made by the Dominion Coal Company in the early part of December.

Some little time ago the shipping men of Montreal, headed by Mr. Robert Reiord, communicated with the management of the Dominion Coal Company in the early part of December one of the latter corporation's steam ships make the trial from Sydney, C.B., right through to Montreal with a cargo of coal. The shipping men were of the opinion that as the Government's new icebreaker is at Quebec it would be a most advantageous period to have a trial, and they looked to the Dominion Coal Company to furnish the cargo vessel.

The management of the Dominion Coal Company came to the immediate conclusion that the matter was of so much importance to Canada, and both to the Gulf and trans-Atlantic trade, that they would immediately take the proposal into serious consideration, and as a result, there was a conference between Hon. Raymond Prefontaine, Minister of Marine and Fisheries, and Mr. F. L. Wanklyn, vice-president and general manager of the Dominion Coal Company.

The plan as outlined is to load the Dominion Coal Company's steamer at Sydney in such time that she may start for Montreal early in the first week in December. At the Traverse, some twenty-five miles below Quebec, the collier would be met by the icebreaker Champlain, the two proceeding up to Montreal. There it is proposed to discharge the collier and then the two will proceed down the river, the Champlain keeping company with the Dominion Coal Company's steamer until such time as the captain of the latter is satisfied that he can make his way alone with no fear of being caught in the ice.

A trip of this sort at this time of the year would mean that the shore lights and beacons along the gulf and the river would be kept in operation, and further it would be necessary to keep all the buoys possible in such stretches of water as Lake St. Peter.

In his conference with Mr. Wanklyn, Hon. Mr. Prefontaine pointed out the difficulty of keeping the buoys in Lake St, Peter until such a late date, but at the same time he was sincerely in favor of the proposal and hoped that it might be arranged. With this end in view, the Minister of Marine and Fisheries will at once place the proposal before his colleagues at Ottawa, and an almost immediate decision is looked for.

Among those who have made a study of the matter, the project of keeping the St. Lawrence open between Montreal and Quebec for three weeks or a month later in the autumn, and opening it again in the spring by say April 15, in place of May 1 as at present, has long been looked upon with favor. In the days when he was Mayor of Montreal and sat as the city's representative on the Harbor Board, Mr. Prefontaine expressed the opinion time and again, that keeping the St. Lawrence open for a longer period each year by means of icebreakers was perfectly feasible.

The shipping men, never being sure of the river after the third week in November, have always been loth to leave an outgoing steamship in the port of Montreal until a later period though now all are agreed that could they be certain of having their way broken for them in the event of a sudden making of ice it would be good business to continue the service up to say the second week in December.

In some years the river has been icebound in November, while again in other seasons it has been open until the beginning of the year, but the uncertainty has been such that the owners never cared to take a chaoce in the last month of the year.

The icebreaker is a moderate-sized vessel, built with the idea of experimenting rather than doing the heaviest kind of icebreaking. She is of moderate tonnage, and is not to be compared with icebreakers of the Ermack type, built and operated in the Baltic Sea by the Russian Government.

When ordered the ihea of the Government was to demonstrate the feasibility of the plan, and then, if necessary, order one or two powerful vessels of, say, twice or three times the size and power of the Champlain. The latter vessel is considered to be sufficiently large and powerful, however, to do all that is required at the season of the year in which the trial will be made.

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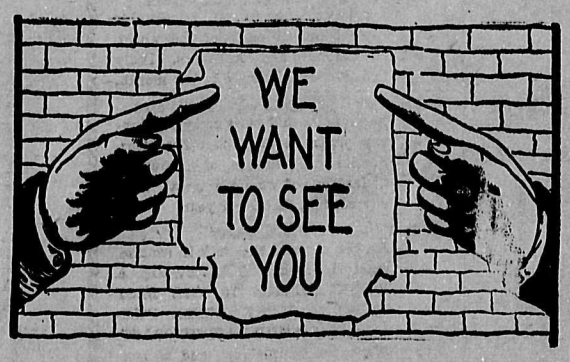

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