NELSON ECONOMIST

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THE NELSON ECONOMIST IS ISSUED EVERY WEDNESDAY AT THE CITY OF NELSON, B. C., BY D. M. CARLEY. SUBSCRIPTION: $2.00 PER ANNUM; IF PAID IN ADVANCE, $1.50. CORRESPONDENCE OF GENERAL INTEREST RESPECTFULLY SOLICITED. ONLY ARTICLES OF MERIT WILL BE ADVERTISED IN THESE COLUMNS, AND THE INTERESTS OF READERS WILL BE CAREFULLY GUARDED AGAINST IRRESPONSIBLE PERSONS AND WORTHLESS ARTICLES.

THERE are now two candidates in the field for the office of mayor for the year 1901. Ald. McKillop has acceded to the request of several friends, who no doubt believe he is a man well qualified for the office. Mr. McKillop has served two terms in the city council, and, speaking in a general way, he has not done anything for which he has any reason to reproach himself. He is a worthy citizen, and if elected, his administration if not quite so aggressive as the requirements of a young Western city demand, would certainly be honest and eminently respectable.

The other candidate is Mr. Frank Fletcher. One year ago THE ECONOMIST supported the candidacy of Mr. Fletcher, and during the year this paper has had no reason to change its opinion. This gentleman has served two terms at the council board, and his record will stand the closest investigation. As Chairman of Board of Works, in 1899, he gave a great deal of attention to his department. He is eminently qualified for the office of Mayor, and seems to be the best man that could possibly be chosen at the present time. If Nelson is to keep in the front in the race for municipal supremacy of the Kootenays, it will be necessary to have just such a man as Mr. Fletcher in the Mayor's chair. He fully understands the requirements of the city, and possesses the aggressive spirit necessary to make for progress. Mr. Fletcher was urged to make the race by a large meeting of influential citizens, who all agreed that he was the man for the hour. We are all looking forward to the next year as the most prosperous one in the history of Nelson, and that being the situation, it will be well to have a man like Mr. Fletcher at the head of the civic government.

THE Relations of Canada to the Empire was the subject of an address recently delivered before the Canada Club at Toronto, by the Rev. Principal Grant of Queen's University. The key-note of the future relations, the lecturer declared, must be unity and self-respect, and as a step towards the latter he urged that Canada, which has so long profited by the military protection of the motherland, should pay all the cost, not only of sending the contingent to South Africa, but of keeping the troops there during the campaign. He further expressed the opinion that this country should also release Imperial troops from the necessity of garrisoning the strongholds on the Atlantic and the Pacific—that we should permanently man the forts at Esquimalt and Halifax with Canadian regulars. This sentiment appears to have been enthusiastically received. If Canada is to keep pace with the other colonies in the matter of practical patriotism and loyalty to the motherland, it is clear that some such course as that suggested by Principal Grant will have to be adopted.

THE good people of the Terminal City appear to be having a very unpleasant time of late. The "hobo" element is making itself felt, and the success attending the operations of the highwayman is positively cause for alarm. That these desperate characters are numerous in the city the frequency of assaults on person and property bear testimony. And that these fellows mean business is equally clear. The mysterious death of the man Wilson is a case in point. He was found dead at his door-step, minus his gold watch and money which he was known to have had on his person on the night of the murder. Nor were there marks of violence on the body, which goes to prove that his assailant was no novice at the work, but an expert in the use of the sand-bag. If matters do not improve in Vancouver, a revolver will be a very useful Christmas present, and hip-pockets will become not only fashionable, but a necessity.

THE Toronto *World* is responsible for the statement, made on the authority of a gentleman who claims to be well posted on government matters, that the Government intends taking advantage of the British North America Act to increase the number of seats in the Senate by six—two from Ontario, two from Quebec, and two from the Maritime provinces. There may be some truth in the rumor. If such be the intention it may be well to remind our representatives that this Province forms part of British North America, and as such is entitled to some consideration at the hands of the Laurier government—even though it did poll a big Conservative vote at the recent general elections. When senatorships or cabinet representation is being considered we hope the claims of British Columbia will not be overlooked.

AN agitation is on foot in Ontario for the superannuation of public school teachers. In the older provinces this is a vexed question. There are several of the old—very old—school left on the teaching staff, men and women worn out in the public service, yet holding to their posts as the only means of support. It is hard to cast such as these adrift on the world to

spend their declining years in poverty, while all around are men and women whose success in life is largely attributable to the early training given by the now feeble old teacher. The salaries paid to school teachers, as a rule, are wretchedly small when one considers the qualifications necessary in order to hold a position on the teaching staff. Then the teacher is bound to keep up an appearance which a person in almost any other walk in life, with a like income, is not expected to live up to. The natural result is that when old age comes he finds his only store of wealth is knowledge and bitter experience—which is, of itself, not a sustaining food. Such a condition of things is pitiable. Yet this condition has to be faced. In Ontario they are trying to arrange for a superannuation fund, but there is a wide diversity of opinion among the teachers themselves and the school boards as to the basis upon which the fund shall be established and maintained. In Toronto the proposition is to adopt a sliding scale of fees to be deducted from the teachers' salaries (already barely sufficient to keep them in respectability) during a service of thirty-five years, when the teacher would be entitled to a superannuation allowance. There is considerable objection to this on the part of the staff. Many hold that the service is too long and the allowance proposed small in proportion to the assessment. Thirty-five years' active service does seem a little exacting, even in the interests of the pupils. The teacher does not enter the service until twenty—in the majority of cases later—so that he would be fifty-five or sixty years of age before he would be entitled to a retiring allowance. Can an ordinary man or woman teach school at such an age with satisfaction to themselves and an exacting public? We do not think they can. The only feasible means of getting over the difficulty for the future would appear to be to pay the teacher a fairly remunerative salary and make a maturable life policy in some standard insurance company as essential to appointment as a certificate of health. The old hands at present in the service will have to be provided for in some way. This phase of the school question will sooner or later present itself in this Province, and it is as well to be prepared for it.

THE rapid growth of Nelson is conspicuous on all hands. The history of the place is brief, but very interesting, not alone to those who have been spared to watch the phenomenal development of the city, but to thousands of those who have settled here within the past few years. Not until 1887 was the townsite located. It was then to be known as Salisbury, but it was found on examination to be practically a government reserve. Later on Salisbury gave place to Stanley, and after considerable disputation the embryo city was named Nelson, in honor of the then lieutenant-governor of the province. The subsequent growth of Nelson up to the date of incorporation in 1897, and from that time up to the present, is evidence of the energy and enterprise of the settlers, old and new. In speaking on the subject the other day to a gentleman who sat at the first board of aldermen, he mentioned a matter which may be new to many, and that was that out of our present population of some 7,000, there are not more than a dozen men who have been residents since 1890. A movement is on foot, this gentleman informed us, to establish a pioneers' society in Nelson, to be founded by the dozen worthies alluded to. Such is life in the Wild and Woolly West.

THE meeting of the Mine-owners' Association held in Nelson last week was a very important one. The proceedings have not been made public, but we understand that a very progressive programme was arranged for next year's operations. The change in the personnel of the local government has inspired confidence.

DURING the year drawing to a close mining operations in the Nelson district have been on a far more extensive scale than ever before in the history of the camp. At the beginning of the year things looked gloomy indeed. The relations between the mine-owners and miners were strained to the utmost tension, the unsettled state of the mining laws practically checked investment and dampened the ardour of even the most enthusiastic; there was no prospect of inducing capital to invest in properties the most promising; prospectors lost heart in their work, and kept out of the hills; enforced idleness prevailed where activity once held undisputed sway, and all was gloom in mining circles. Evil foreboding became contagious, nor did the clouds pass by for months. The first glimpse of the silvery lining was seen after the downfall of Joe Martin and his clique of would-be honest politicians. With the advent of stable, responsible government came the welcome metamorphosis. Labor troubles were settled, confidence restored, and old-time energy renewed. Since then progress has been apparent on all hands. Not alone did the prospector take heart anew, but claim holders resumed work with a vigor, idle mines again became active, and capital reappeared on the scene. The Hall mines and smelter, closed down in common with other mining concerns, have started afresh, and that the smelter management are confident of a continuance of the present activity is shown by the large amount of capital expended in improving the plant so as to be in a position to meet increased demands. During the year Morning Mountain has proved a veritable treasure-trove. Several rich free-milling gold propositions are being operated as a result of a short season's work, and from the number of claims recorded it is clear that next year will witness more profitable work on this mountain of metals than on any other ground in the Kootenays. Not alone is renewed activity apparent in Nelson, but the surrounding districts have also picked up wonderfully. With new wagon roads available and improved facilities for working the mines in operation, the coming year may be confidently looked to as one of the most prosperous on record. All we now need is such a change in the tariff as will keep the raw material at home, here to be manufac

tured into those commodities which we are now almost entirely dependent upon American enterprise to supply us with. And such a change will probably be made during next year.

EVERY day the feeling is growing that Canada ought to be fittingly represented at the opening ceremonies in connection with the Australian Commonwealth. We ought to be as much interested in the great event as Great Britain, and if the mother country deems the occasion of such importance as to send members of the Royal Family to participate, surely Canada ought to be suitably represented. It is said that Sir Wilfrid Laurier is anxious to attend, if he can do so without interfering with his parliamentary duties. However, the house will be called together at an awkward time, and should the session prove a protracted one, it is difficult to see how the Premier can get away unless he delegates to some of his friends the power to act for him. It seems to us that confederated Canada ought to have some of her representative public men from each of the provinces sent to the Land of the Southern Cross on this occasion, when our relations in the Island Continent are adopting a policy which has made British North America what this country is to-day—confederation. Each province should select its own men, and if possible have its premier on the delegation. Such an arrangement would be a splendid advertisement for the empire as well as for Canada

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THE Vancouver Board of Trade are anxious that similar associations throughout the Province should unite in forming a provincial board. Circulars have been sent out to sound the feeling on this point, and it is reported that the proposition is favorably received. Here in the Kootenays we have our Associated Boards of Trade, and if the identity of that organization would be lost by affiliation with our friends at the Coast, then THE ECONOMIST would say don't affiliate. The interests of the merchants and traders of Vancouver are by no means identical with those of the Kootenays—in many instances they are opposed. If Kootenay can help the Coast in any matter of Provincial interest, such assistance may always be relied upon; but when it comes to a matter of local concern, we will be found solid for Kootenay—first, last and all the time. The board of trade at Victoria have monopolized the nomenclature of the Province by calling themselves the British Columbia Board of Trade. But there are others

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AND now comes the professor who solemnly tells us that cooked food is humanity's greatest curse. He is a Chicago man, as might be expected—one Professor G. Tyler. Perhaps we should not spring this startling piece of intelligence on our readers at this festive season, when roast turkey will adorn so many tables and plum-pudding, well cooked, is acknowledged the correct thing. Nor would we do so did we think for a moment that it would in the slightest degree interfere with the realities, traditions or customs of merry old Christmas. The fact that the learned professor here quoted condems cooked food will not, we hope, induce a change in Tuesday's menu. We have been too long accustomed to look respectfully to the kitchen as the most important department in the household to change our opinion without very serious consideration and positive demonstration. Professor Tyler is very sweeping in his assertions. He says that cooked food is responsible for all the great pestilences, contagious diseases and other bodily ills; that it shortens life generally; that it causes crimes and makes moral degenerates as well as physical degenerates, and that it heaps untold misery upon the world by so greatly increasing the cost of living as to bring hunger and want into the land and cause millions to toil their lives away for the mere sake of eking out an existence. Cooked food responsible for all this! Perish the thought.

CHRISTMAS—Merry Chris mas—will be with our readers ere another number of THE ECONOMIST reaches them. That the festive season will be merrily spent in Nelson there can be no doubt, for if there is a community on the continent that has the necessary ingredients of a happy Christmas—peace, contentment, prosperity—that community is Kootenay's capital. Since last we wished our friends the compliments of the season, many changes have taken place in the city tending to make our picturesque, prosperous mountain home more attractive, and indications are not wanting that ere another year rolls by our cup of happiness will have been filled to overflowing. As a community we have much to be thankful for. That "Peace on earth: good will toward men," we enjoy, so that in again wishing our readers a Merry Christmas, it is with the happy assurance that the wish will be thoroughly realized.

AN album, weighing over 200 lbs., and containing the photographs and autographs of 100,000 Canadian children and a cheque for $16,500, is on its way to England, to be presented to the Queen. The cash goes to the army fund. Good for the rising generation of Canada.

ON the 1st of January next the C. P. R. will take over the section of the Nelson & Fort Sheppard road between the city and Five-mile Point, the latter company retaining running privileges and will enjoy the use of the new C. P. R. depot and yards. This arrangement will be a great convenience not only to the travelling public, but to local merchants handling goods over these lines. A union depot at Nelson has long been the dream of all anxious for the progress of the city. The new station, warehouses, approaches, etc., are all indicative of increasing trade, and stamp Nelson, more than ever, the commercial capital of the Kootenays. The C. P. R. has expended over $50,000 on the section to Five-mile Point, the old line followed by the Nelson & Fort Sheppard being practically discarded. Freight trains have been running over the new line for several days past, which materially helps the prompt delivery of goods.

A RELIC OF WADY HALFA

The other day, in rummaging through an old trunk, valuable only for it association, my eye fell upon an old, ragged newspaper, and in the words of the poet, "thereby hangs a tale" It was an odd-looking sheet, and only second glance was needed to disclose the reason why it had been treasured with other old documents of more or less importance It was a copy of the Wady Halfa *Gazette*, published in 1885. It will come in the nature of a surprise to many to learn that one of the editors of the Wady Halfa *Gazette* was the present member of the Dominion House of Commons for Yale-Cariboo, William A. Galliher, and the other editor was myself It may be of interest to many to learn something of the history of this publication Wady Halfa was the base of military operations during the Soudan campaign, and as such had become of more importance than its neighboring cities No doubt many will remember that while Wady Halfa was in its infancy, not yet being 2000 years old, Rameses II., being weary of large building contracts, from which he had drawn considerable profits, took up his residence at that place. Here it was that Billy Galliher and the writer engaged in a journalistic venture, which, if it did not bring us much money, at least resulted in adding considerably to our local fame. Like many another publication, the Wady Halfa *Gazette* was conducted purely on the jaw-bone principle Type and paper were secured, on time, from the Royal Engineers, and two printers belonging to the same corps undertook the mechanical work. Mr Galliher and the writer constituted the editorial staff. That the publishers did not propose to get the worst of it, may be instanced by the following extract from the initial article :

"Our custom has always been to avoid expressing any partisan views on local or imperial politics in these columns. We accept the advertisements and subscriptions of both political parties, and if we have a natural leaning to the side from which we receive the most support, we refrain from giving expression to our views in the hope that our magnanimity will increase the support we thus deserve to earn from those whose subscriptions are less numerous."

If the publishers had adhered strictly to this policy, all might have been well But Bill would persist in dabbling in politics, and thus earned the enmity of Royalist party, headed by the Queen of the Bishareries, who wielded great influence Her Majesty was a handsome woman, and very unscrupulous when dealing with any one who had earned her displeasure. She threatened to ruin the *Gazette*. To make matters worse, the printers about this time manifested symptoms of a sordid character. Somewhat vulgarly speaking, they wanted money, and when printers want that which editors are supposed to exist without, everyone knows the result. The publishers of the Wady Halfa *Gazette* tried to show how unreasonable it was to expect them to edit a paper and at the same time dig up piastres, the current coin of the realm. But it was all of no avail At length it was decided to appeal to the citizens for support. Bill being the most presentable, in fact he had the only pair of trousers in the establishment, for clothing is a luxury in that clime, was selected to go forth and bring the citizens to a realization of the calamity that would befall them in the event of the suspension of the *Gazette*. This appeal was in vain. The Queen had threatened social ostracism to anyone who would subscribe. The citizens also lacked public spirit, and, moreover, were wise in their day and generation. They reasoned in their ingenious, Arabic way, that a paper which could not be made pay as a legitimate business enterprise, was not likely to accomplish much for the good of the town. Therefore, the bland smile of the impecunious publisher availed not, and one quiet evening, on the banks of the river Nile, the Wady Halfa *Gazette* passed to its long rest. The Queen had her revenge. Billy returned to the practice of the law and the writer sought green fields and pastures new. That was Mr Galliher's las journalistic venture. P. G.

LARRY'S LETTER.

Hogan's Alley, Dec. 18nd,

DERR TIM,—I beleev 'tis mor not a yeer since whin meself rote to ye last, an' now that Chrismas is coming on, 'tis yer ould frend Larry Finn that wouldn't be at er ringing the neck ov he festif gobbler or grinding betune the few teeth that's left in his jaws the raison-stones ov a boording house pudding widout dropping ye a line, hoping it'll foind ye in the same good helth as it laives me at presint.

The raison why I dropt off riting was that meself left Nelson to help to bild up the rest of the country, for 'tis long ago I railized that we must have more railways if this place was iver to come to the front among the grait nashons ov the world like ould Ireland ; and I towld the peeple so. "Yer right, Larry," says they, "go on building thim" Well, Tim, I couldn't foind enuf ov min th t could do the job dasently, an' be japers if meself hadn't to turn in wid the pick an' shovel, just to giv thim a rinkel on how to do it. Meself an' me min bilt the Crows' Nest line, the Kuskanook & Bonnington Falls road, the Balfour & Procter's Landing extension, the Hogustown & Roberts' Ranch division an' a few mor. Thin they wor contimplating an electrick tramway for Nelson, but they wanted a good man to boss the job, an' meself being away, they had to wait till I got back to start work. Well, Tim, I got threw wid that job too, an' now I'm taking a rest, for Dr. Quinlan says I wants it to improve me helth an' appetite.

Arrah, Tim but 'tis me was moidered wid me min on konstruction work.

We had Dagos from the Sunny South
Ov Italy, they claimed,
That spoke the quarest lingo
Ov that land that's so far-famed ;
We had Swedes an' we'd Norwegians
Wid the rummest names at all ;
We had Danes an' we'd Icelanders,
An' we'd some that hailed from Gaul ;
We had Minonites, Doukhobers,
Germans, Frenchmen an' Poles, too,
Finns, likewise Bluenoses,
But ov Irish we'd a few.

Any way, Tim, I lived threw the whole ov it, an was spared to turn up in Nelson in time to vote for a good Irishman for mimber ov Parliamint—Billy Galliher. He's the broth ov a boy from Galway, an' mor flower to his pratie cake He's not agin the governmint, Tim—he's wid it. They'd some trubel in getting him to run, for loike all Irishmen he's inflicted wid too much modesty, but whin the boys shouted "Go it, Bill," that settled it. Ov coorse he won.

As I was saying, Tim, we have an electrick tram in Nelson now, an' ye can ride from the top ov the town out to the park for tin cints, an' hav a car all to yerself, too, at this saison ov the yeer. The park is a purty place in the summer, just on the shores ov the lake, wid the mountains all around to keep the hart ov the sun off during the day, an' not too high for the moon to clime over an' admir his face in the mirror ov the waters at night when he thinks no won is looking

On the lake's pebly shore
Is this spot to adore,
Where sweetest of zephyrs they play thro' the trees,
For widout any blarney
'Tis a little Killarney,
That here in old Nelson one fancies he sees.

There's grate improvmints in Nelson, Tim, since

st I rote. Ye could play lawn-tenus on Baker Street ow, 'tis that levil, only for the tram cars, an' the all-ground is all fiuced in, wid curtins to keep the ust from the players an' to purvint peeple from stair-ng a' thim that aren't good enuf to have a sait on the rand stand. But there's a lot ov our ould frends one Mickey Burns is say-fairing somewhere in the outh says, and if he doesn't discover the south pole efore they find the north pole, I'm mistaken. I idn't see Billy Hern for a long toime till the other oight, whin he dropt in all ov a suddent, an' the oys started singing "Willie we have missed ye." Begorra, Tim, but ye wouldn't know Billy since he haived off his goatee. Paddy Myles is a millionair, r he will be won ov these days, for Paradise is turn-g out as rich as he towld us it was. 'Tisn't Para-ise lost, as wa used to tell him. More power to Paddy, for he'll never be half as rich as I'd wish him. Ye don't know Joe Downs, do ye? He's not won ov he Downs ov the County Down, but a distant rela-hon ov his on his second cousin's soide was married o an Irish woman that was related to Justis Downs v the Four Courts in Dublin. Joe was intinded for the bar, but early in loife he got stage-struck, whin he met such characters as Barry Sullivan, Harry Lindley, Irving, Sarah Bernhart, Lulu Vogue, an' all thim soort of celebrates. Meself 'd rather be sun-struck than stage-struck, but 'd loike to giv a stroke meself if there was any striking going on.

I'll write to ye agin, Tim, an' tell ye all the news an' I promise ye I'll be a better correspondent during the next century than I was for 1800. If ye don't hear from me before New Century Day, let me now wish ye many happy retnrns.

An' now, Tim, to conclud an' to finish an' loike-wise for to make an ind, ye'll remimber me koindly to all me frends in ould Ireland.

Just one kind thought at Christmas cheer—
One loving word for me,
For tho' so far, so far away,
Old Ireland I'm with thee;
If Fate decreed that I should roam
And ties of youth I'd sever,
My heart is in the dear old home
And with you ever, ever.

Here's to ye, Tim. Yer ould frend,

LARRY FINN.

FOR HOLIDAY GOODS
LEND US A HAND
TO DISPOSE OF OUR GOODS, AS IT TAKES TWO TO DO BUSINESS

FOR DIAMONDS and Jewels and Brouze Novelties of all kinds, with a beautiful assortment of Manicure Sets. Yes, and a nice Sewing Machine, will do for a Christmas present. We are right in our headquartors to serve you all, with the understanding that all goods bought from us are guaranteed as to quality, and prices are 20 per cent cheaper than you can buy anywhere in the country. All engraving free of charge.

JACOB DOVER'S THE . . . JEWELER
NELSON, BRITISH COLUMBIA

VENTS AND OSSIP

THE most careless observer on the streets, who has sufficient leisure in his eye to note the passing show, can hardly fail to see, on any afternoon, a thousand proofs that Nelson is an Eden, where every woman not only has her way, but her own style of doing it. In other cities there is a certain uniformity and established fashion in walking costumes, but here we have all the infinite variety of life and millinery that the whole round year affords. One woman goes by in furs, and another comes along in a pink shirt waist; one is so brilliantly arrayed that her splendor mashes the eye, and another is in dress so subdued that the average man is liable to mash her by mistaking her for a shadow and stepping on her. Of course the climate does it all. Any race in this atmosphere is bound to evolve sooner or later into a go-as-you-please.

Nelson is rapidly developing metropolitan methods, but it is regrettable that in its ambition to reach the goal of a great city it is also acquiring considerable undesirable fame. In short, it is becoming painfully apparent that we have altogether too many resorts of a questionable character, and the worst of these are the numerous houses of assignation to be found in several localities. These latter are ten times more damaging and insiduous than the places known as houses of ill-fame. Only last week a hard-working woman became alarmed at the absence over night of her two young daughters She came down to the city in the morning and traced the erring ones to a house where women have been in the habit of meeting men. It may be assumed that these young girls wou d have transgressed any way, but that does not make less binding the obligation to remove the opportunities of so doing.

I learn from Vancouver that there is considerable interest at present over the much talked Australian tour of the Canadian Lacrosse Club, and that efforts are being made to have the Dominion Government appropriate $3,000 towards the expense. Should this be secured in addition to the $7,000 guaranteed by the lacrosse associations of Victoria, South Australia and New South Wales, it is considered by those engineering the scheme that it would be safe to pick the representative Canadian players from all partsof Canada and make the contemplated tour, if not in 1901, the following year. Now, I should be very much pleased to see a representative team sent to the Land of the Southern Cross, but I do not like the idea of asking the Government to assist in the project. While lacrosse may be our national game, the Government, liberal though i be, is not likely to support it to the tune of $3,000. The lovers of the sport themselves ought to be able to "raise the wind" without much difficulty. I should be sorry to see politics enter into lacrosse, which would probably be the case if a Liberal Governmont has a voice in the selection of the team.

And talking of Australia, reminds me of some very startling statistics I met with the other day as to the rabbit pest in that country. At one period in New South Wales over 100,000,000 acres were infested with rabbits, and 55,280,000 were destroyed in one year and their skins paid for by the government It is estimated altogether that 18,000 miles of rabbit-proof wire netting fences have already been erected, and many hundreds of miles more are now in course of erection. For years the government of the colony had a standing reward for anyone who would devise a means of eradicating the pest, but no effectual plan offered. Latterly industry has come to the rescue, and a large trade in frozen rabbit and rabbit skins has sprung up. Some 14,000 tons of rabbit was sent to Great Britain last year, valued at £600,000. Here in Nelson we can get it, too, while our Australian friends may enjoy our British Columbia salmon.

Ald McKillop, the candidate for mayor, can lay claim to at least one merit, and that is his acceptability as a toast-master. I have heard him on two or three occasions, an to and Irishman like myself, who believes that only an Irishman possesses genuine humor, Ald McKillop was a revelation. By the way, there are few good after-dinner speakers in Nelson To my mind the Rev. Mr. White is one of the best. A short time ago, I heard the reverend gentleman deliver a fifteen minute after-dinner speech that was really a delightful piece of post-prandial oratory. The reason why an Irishman excels all others in the matter of wit is his sublime unconsciousness of the fact that he is saying something humerous. Every Irishman has read of Lord Chief Justice Morris. One day he was sitting at the Four Courts, in Dublin, when a young barrister from the North of Ireland rose nervously to make his first motion. Lord Morris, a Galway man, by the way, had declared that no one listening to him would ever take him for anything but an Irishman, which was perfectly correct. But Galway could not understand Antrim. The lord chief justice leaned over to ask the associate where this barrister hailed from.

"County Antrim," was the response. Then asked his lordship of the official: "Did ye iver come across sich a frightful accint in the course of yer loife?"

At another time it fell to his lot to hear a case at Coleraine, in which damages were claimed from a veterinary surgeon for having poisoned a valuable horse. The issue depended upon whether a certain number of grains of a particular drug could be safely administered to the animal. The dispensary doctor proved that he had often given eight grains to a man, from which it was to be inferred that twelve for a horse was not excessive

"Never mind your eight grains, doctor," said the judge. "We all know tha some poisons are cumulative in effect, and ye may go to the edge of ruin with impunity But tell me this: The twelve grains—wouldn't they kill the devil himself if he swallowed them?"

The doctor was annoyed, and pompously answered: "I don't know, my lord; I never had him for a patient."

From the bench came the answer: "Ah, no, doctther, ye niver had, more's the pity! The old bhoy's still aloive."

But an Englishman occasionally says something worth reproducing. An amusing lapsus linguae occured recently in a saburban church in England. It is a church with a mixed choir and the ladies protested against being arrayed in surplices—perhaps unwilling to be confounded with the gentlemen of the choir; perhaps because they preferred to sport more fashionable costumes The clergyman combated their arguments for some time, and then, finally, laid down the law "surplices or nothing." The blushing damsels of the amazed choir accepted the surplices.

To Mr. Flavin, the British House of Commons

as recently been indebted for several delightfully omical outbursts. He is a man of quick temper, ut there is amiability in his anger, for it is obvious at he is angry with himself for being angry with those who are moved to laughter by the quaintness f his expressions. It was he who said: "It is ll right for you to send Irishmen to the front to be illed in your wars and then come back to spend the emainder of their lives in an Irish workhouse." rom him also came the assurance that "as brave a eart beats beneath the kilt of the Gordon Highander." It was one of his colleagues who rose and nounced "I am now going to repeat what I was revented saying." The use of a wrong word by r. Flynn once gave a particular significance to his nology of the Boer's bravery, for according to him here were to be found among those who took the eld "the beardless boy of sixteen and the grey aired burglar of sixty."

P. G.

The latest addition to the business houses of Nelson s the new crockery and glassware store, just opened y Messrs. McFerland & Brockman, next door to the P R office. The new house will be known as ama Hall, and in it will be found the latest designs n crockery and glassware. The proprietors are ell known in Nelson, and with the stock they carry hould attract a large trade in their special lines.

The last issue of the Vancouver *Province* was probably the largest newspaper ever issued in British olumbia. It contains 32 pages of advertisements and interesting reading matter, and as an advertisement for Vancouver its value cannot be estimated. Mr. Gibbons is placing the *Province* in the first ranks of Canadian newspapers.

The leading business houses of Nelson have issued very handsome and artistic calendars this year. The one issued by the Lawrence Hardware Co. is unusually attractive, and in many respects is a work of art.

Mr. Thos. Lillie, of the firm of Lillie Bros., was married last Wednesday to Miss Maud Lowe. Both the bride and groom have many friends in Nelson with whom THE ECONOMIST unites in extending congratulations.

Mrs. W. J. Goepel returned last evening from a lengthy visit to England. She was met at New York City by Mr. Goepel.

A dispatch from Montreal announces the arrival there from New York of J. P. Graves, of the Minergraves syndicate, operating in the Boundary country. Mr. Graves states that he has made a contract to deliver 700 tons of copper matte per month in New York and 200 tons additional in Liverpool, England. This would mean an income to the syndicate of $1,500,000 to $2,000,000 per annum. Mr. Graves further announced that a charter would be obtained next session of the British Columbia legislature for granting a consolidated mining, smelting and power company with a capital of fifteen millions.

To the Electors of Nelson:

At the request of a number of electors, I have decided to offer myself as a candidate for mayor at the coming civic elections. I have served as alderman during two years of the four during which the city has been conducting its own affairs, and my record while in the council on the questions that are now the most important issues before the people of the city is such as will bear inspection.

I believe that the city has valuable assets in the water and electric light systems, and while in the council I did everything possible to safeguard these assets; and if elected mayor no act or vote of mine will be in favor of allowing any outside corporate interest to become a competitor with the city in the business of electric lighting, a business in which the city has already invested $70,000.

While in the council in 1897, I voted in favor of incorporating a fair wage clause in all contracts, and the principle was carried out in both letter and spirit. I see no reason to change my views on that question now. And I believe further, that with competent foremen and superintendence that the city can get as good value for the money spent by having the great bulk of its work done by day's labor as by the contract system, and no good reason can be advanced why the city should not pay the same rate of wages and work men the same number of hours as prevails in private enterprises.

I am in favor of giving the business and property interests every safeguard possible, and to that end I believe the fire department should be made as efficient as possible, consistent with the revenues of the city.

Nelson should be kept in advance of its rivals, and everything possible must be done to induce manufacturing enterprises to locate here, for it is the payrolls that build up the cities of today.

Nelson, a western city, is as orderly and law abiding as eastern cities. This is because the people of Nelson are tolerant. I believe that this spirit of toleration should be continued, and I will if elected mayor do no act to abridge or curtail the rights or privileges of one class of our citizens merely because another class may have different views.

The city has made a start in permanent street improvements, and I am in favor of continuing these improvements as fast as possible, with due regard to the revenues of the city.

If elected mayor, I am in a position and will pledge myself to devote my time to the conduct of the city's business.

NELSON, B. C., DEC. 15, 1900 **FRANK FLETCHER**

The Unforgotten Past

WRITTEN FOR THE NELSON ECONOMIST

THE judge glanced carelessly over the list of cases that would be tried against him. Only one caught his attention. It was an action for libel brought by one Vansickle against the Argus newspaper. Vansickle, he knew, was a prospective United States senator, a man of great wealth and altogether a prominent citizen. The judge, who had been an active politician before he went on the bench, wondered that they had never met. The defamatory words in the libel complained of were to the effect that the plaintiff, Vansickle, was dishonest, a man whom nobody knowing his record could trust, and Vansickle had promptly launched this action. Something stirred in the Judge's mind when he saw the name—some vague reminiscence of other days, when he was a wild young fellow, whose future was depicted by the sober-minded people of his native town in no very bright colors. When and where had been this connection with Vansickle in time past, he could not remember, but that the name was connected with some unpleasant incident of the past, he felt sure. However, in the press of business, the whole matter passed from his mind.

Shortly after, the day of his trial arrived, and after the addresses of counsel had been delivered to an impassive jury, the plaintiff stepped into the box. The judge's interest in the plaintiff revived, and he looked at him with some curiosity. He only saw a tall and somewhat distinguished looking man, with a firm, rather hard, face and a steely eye. "I never saw him before," said the judge to himself. Mr. Vansickle, after being sworn, gave his evidence in the usual way. He was a candidate for the senate, and in some financial business. The words published in the Argus tended to damage his reputation, etc., and then after a short examination-in-chief, he was handed over to the mercies of the opposing counsel, an acute, vigorous, lynx-eyed and, like most successful lawyers, cold-blooded man. He turned over some documents, whispered to his assistant, and then shot out his first question, which fell like a bursting shell: "Were you ever in gaol, Mr. Vansickle?" There was a dead silence in the crowded courtroom. Vansickle's color changed and his firm jaw seemed to settle more firmly. He looked for the first time at the judge, and the judge looked at him. One keen observer said that there was a flash of recognition between the two, but that must have been absurd. For a fraction of a second he hesitated, then he said with perfect calmness, "Must I answer that question, your honor?" And the judge, speaking with the regret that any human judge would feel, answered, "Yes, but you may give any explanation that you desire." After a few minutes the cross-examination was over. The plaintiff had admitted that he had been convicted of breaking into a saloon and abstracting therefore spirituous liquors. He had been sentenced to one year's imprisonment. That was all, and still amidst intense silence the plaintiff was stepping from the box, when the judge's voice

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The jury gave a verdict for $5000 damages, which s duly recorded, but as the judge sat in his xurious library that night, he remembered certain se words as to one's sin always finding one out.

The possibility that the Prince of Wales' yacht, instead of that of Sir Thomas Lipton, may be chosen competed for the America's cup will send a quiver of delight through New York's four hundred, says an American paper. It is asserted in the London cable press reports that the Prince's yacht is to be used to try out the vessel which Lipton is building; and that if the former boat proves the speedier, it may possibly be sent over to accomplish the feat which has proved too much for all the crack British yachts in the past.

ANOTHER ELDORADO.

Dr. S. M. Fraser, head of the N.W.M.P. on the Dalton trail, is in Victoria from the mining district recently discovered on the Chilkat river.

"None except the few who have been privileged to see for themselves," he said to a newspaper representative, "realize the immense wealth of that district. Of course, in a general way it is known that the Chilkat and some of its tributaries are rich, but that it is actually as good a gold producer, so far as developed, as Eldorado, is not understood, but the little work done last summer demonstrated that richer dirt was never discovered anywhere than in this district. I know it to be a fact that thousands of dollars of gold was taken from holes only a yard or so square on bedrock. From a hole eight feet square on bedrock Smith and Bigelow for days took out from 40 to 100 ounces of gold a day, and they never at any time worked more than ten men. Glacier creek, on the Canadian side of the temporary line, is also very rich. Those who did their assessment work all found good pay. To test his creek some miners put in a steam pump on Jack Dalton's claim. They were just getting into rich gravel when they were driven out by water. But their work demonstrated the richness of the creek. Further south of Glacier the Salmon is known to be rich;

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In great variety. The very latest style in gloves is the suede, castor and mocha. These gloves are nice for cold weather, as they are much warmer than dressed kid. We carry these lines in black, mole, tans and greys; $1.25 to $2.

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also some of its tributaries, particularly Nugget creek. One man took out several thousand dollars of gold from his Nugget claim. The Salmon empties into the Chilkat, a few miles below the Klahena, some of whose bars carry gold in paying quantities."

DUTIES ON LEAD.

Col. E. S. Topping, of Trail thus speaks on the subject of duties on lead:

"I know that several members of the government have expressed sentiment favorably to the imposition of higher duties on manufactured articles of lead. This accomplished we are assured of a refinery, paint works, etc., with the accompanying pay roll. To-day the lead mine owner when selling his ore to the smelter has, beside the cost of reduction, to pay the United States, duties on lead bullion costing him altogether from $14 to $30 per ton, according to the percentage of lead contained in the ore. Now, under what we hope to achieve—i.e., to be able to supply Canada with paints lead pipe, litharge, etc., from lead mined, smelted and manufactured in Canada—this money now paid to the United States would stay in the country, as there would be no necessity for either ore or bullion to be sent out of the Dominion, unless the greater value received should stimulate lead mining to such an extent that we should have to seek a foreign market.

"I feel rather strongly on another question, which is that a large amount of Canadian ore goes to the United States for treatment. More than half of Rossland's output is smelted at Northport, Wash., and there is expended there a payroll of about $40,000 per month, which our workingmen and business men should have. Now when the Crow's Nest Pass coke can be laid down at the Kootenay smelting centres at a lower figure than coke can be bought for at any other smelting point in the west, we need fear no opposition, for ores can be reduced as economically here as in any other place outside of the cheap coal districts of the east. The competition of the smelters built and building will thoroughly protect the ore producers from having to pay unreasonable charges for reduction. Therefore, I believe that to more thoroughly protect our own country and people an export duty of at least $2 per ton should be placed on ores. Concerted, persistent action in showing the facts induced the government to take the 15 per cent. duty off from lead bullion, and rendered it possible to erect and run the lead furnaces at the

NELSON TENT AND AWNING FACTORY

The best equipped establishment in British Columbia for turning out all kinds of CANVAS GOODS

THEO. MADSON, Prop.
Baker St., Nelson

H. M'CAUSLAND, SHOEMAKER,

Best and Shoes Made to Order. Invisible Patches a Specialty. Only Union Men Employed. My stock of fine ready-made work lowest priced in the city. First door west of Bank of British Columbia. BAKER ST NELSON, B. C.

ASSAYERS' SUPPLIES

We Carry in Stock a Full Line of Assayers' and Chemists' Supplies

B. C. AGENTS FOR

DENVER FIRE CLAY CO. WM. AINSWORTH & SONS

F. W. BRAUN & CO.

BRUNTON POCKET TRANSITS ONLY $25

W. F. TEETZEL & CO., NELSON, B. C.

Bureau of Provincial Information.

IN ORDER that the Government may be in possession of definite information with which to supply those seeking investments in this Province, I am instructed to invite particulars from those who have properties for sale, and who may feel disposed to forward such particulars to this office for the purpose in question.

In view of the proposed early reorganization of the Agent General's Office in London, England, the desirability of having on file a list of farms and other properties for sale, with full and accurate details, is obvious. Properties submitted may include farms and farm lands, industrial or commercial concerns, timber limits, water powers, or other enterprises affording opportunities for legitimate investment.

It is not proposed to commend properties to intending investors, but to afford the fullest access to the classified lists and all available information connected therewith, and to place enquirers in communication with the owners.

The fullest particulars are desired not only of the properties themselves, but of the localities in which they are situated, and the conditions affecting them. For this purpose printed schedules will, upon application, be forwarded to those desirous of making sales.

R. E. GOSNELL,
Secretary, Bureau of Provincial Information.

THISTLE MINERAL CLAIM.

Situate in the Nelson Mining Division of West Kootenay District. Where located:—On East Slope of Morning Mountain, near Give-Out Creek.

Take notice that I, J. H. Bowes, as agent for the Hall Mines, Limited (Foreign), Free Miner's Certificate No. B36,665, intend, sixty days from the date hereof, to apply to the Mining Recorder for a Certificate of Improvements, for the purpose of obtaining a Crown Grant of the above claim.

And further take notice that action, under section 37, must be commenced before the issuance of such Certificate of Improvements.

Dated this 25th day of October, 1900.

J. H. BOWES.

PATENAUDE BROTHERS

JEWELERS AND OPTICIANS

FINE WATCHES A SPECIALTY NELSON, B. C.

CERTIFICATE OF IMPROVEMENTS.

Central and Central Fractional Mineral Claims, situate in the Nelson Mining Division of West Kootenay District.

Where located: On Eagle Creek, between "Red Point" and "Invincible" Mineral Claims.

Take notice that I, John McLatchie, P.L.S., of the City of Nelson, acting as agent for Otto Johnson, Free Miner's Certificate No. B 27,552, and Edward Dumont, Free Miner's Certificate No. B 27,903, intend sixty days from the date hereof, to apply to the Mining Recorder for certificates of improvements, for the purpose of obtaining Crown Grants of the above claims.

And further take notice that action, under section 37, must be commenced before the issuance of such certificate of improvements.

Dated this 25th day of September, 1900.

JOHN McLATCHIE

WEST KOOTENAY BUTCHER CO.

Wholesale and Retail Dealers in

FRESH AND SALT MEATS

Camps supplied on shortest notice and lowest prices.

Mail orders receive careful attention.

Nothing but fresh and wholesome meats and supplies kept in stock.

E. C. TRAVES, Manager

rail and Nelson smelters. The same earnest, persistent action will bring us these further requirements, which, if given us, will make Kootenay the most prosperous section of this, the richest mineral province of our wonderful Canada."

MINING NEWS

SLOCAN.

From the Ledge.

J. Frank Collom has thrown up the bond on the Jabon and Ohio.

The Monitor, at Three Forks, will commence shipping next month.

Duluth capital has purchased the Metropolitan camp in the Lardeau.

Work has been commenced on the True Blue, a copper property near Kaslo.

The Slocan Sovereign commenced shipping to the Kaslo sampler last week.

J. Ernest has secured a bond upon the Blue Jay and Mountain View in the Lardeau.

The Black Prince, Bonholder and Two Friends will make shipments in a few days.

Under steady development the Speculator is looking well.

The management of the Marion states that no freeze-out game is being attempted by the principal owners. The mine will likely resume operations in January.

One hundred feet of tunnel has been driven upon the Philadelphia, a Fennel Creek claim.

Mark Manley has returned from Spokane. He will push operations upon the Iron Horse.

Last week the Payne shipped 285 tons, Whitewater 197, Bosun 20, Hewitt 10, Last Chance 121, Slocan Star 98, Goodenough 15, Ruth 16, Idaho 202, Corinth 61, Slocan Chief 16, Arlington 80.

Six men are working in ore on the V & M, Twelve Mile. C. W. Harrington is superintendent, and the property is being developed by Vancouver capital. Shipments will commence in a few days.

BOUNDARY.

From the Greenwood Times.

During the past week a large amount of new work has been started in the district, thus increasing the number of men employed and consequently the amount of money that will be distributed among the business men. The Dominion Copper company are making preparations to develop their properties on a large scale. Jas. Breen was in the district for several days this week and Mr. Parker, the newly appointed superintendent, is on the ground.

A force of men are at work on the Emma in Summit camp. The big showing exposed by the railway

SHAMROCK MINERAL CLAIM.

Situate in the Nelson Mining Division of West Kootenay District. Where located—On Kootenay Mountain, near Ainsworth.

Take notice that I, J. H. Bowes, as agent for [illegible] (Foreign), Free Miner's Certificate [illegible], intend, sixty days from the date hereof, to apply to the Mining Recorder for a Certificate of Improvements, for the purpose of obtaining a Crown Grant of the above claim.

And further take notice that action, under section 37, must be commenced before the issuance of such Certificate of Improvements.

Dated this [illegible] day of October, 1900.

J. H. BOWES.

THORNE MINERAL CLAIM.

Situate in the Nelson Mining Division of West Kootenay District. Where located—On Kootenay Mountain, near Ainsworth.

Take notice that I, J. H. Bowes, as agent for [illegible] (Foreign), Free Miner's Certificate [illegible], intend, sixty days from the date hereof, to apply to the Mining Recorder for a Certificate of Improvements, for the purpose of obtaining a Crown Grant of the above claim.

And further take notice that action, under section 37, must be commenced before the issuance of such Certificate of Improvements.

Dated this [illegible] day of October, 1900.

J. H. BOWES.

NATIONAL EMBLEM MINERAL CLAIM.

Situate in the Nelson Mining Division of West Kootenay District. Where located—On East Kootenay Mountain, near Five-Out.

Take notice that I, J. H. Bowes, as agent for [illegible] (Foreign), Free Miner's Certificate [illegible], intend, sixty days from the date hereof, to apply to the Mining Recorder for a Certificate of Improvements, for the purpose of obtaining a Crown Grant of the above claim.

And further take notice that action, under section 37, must be commenced before the issuance of such Certificate of Improvements.

Dated this [illegible] day of October, 1900.

J. H. BOWES.

HORSESHOE MINERAL CLAIM.

Situate in the Nelson Mining Division of West Kootenay District. Where located—On East Kootenay Mountain, near Ainsworth.

Take notice that I, J. H. Bowes, as agent for [illegible] (Foreign), Free Miner's Certificate No. [illegible], intend, sixty days from the date hereof, to apply to the Mining Recorder for a Certificate of Improvements, for the purpose of obtaining a Crown Grant of the above claim.

And further take notice that action, under section 37, must be commenced before the issuance of such Certificate of Improvements.

Dated this [illegible] day of October, 1900.

J. H. BOWES.

Wadds Bros.,

PHOTOGRAPHERS

Vancouver and Nelson

...Near... Place Hotel VICTORIA ST., NELSON

EXPRESS AND DRAYING

A. L. PERRIER

LEAVE ORDERS AT
VANSTON'ES DRUG STORE

H. STEVENS

TAILOR

Gentlemen's Fine Suits
A Specialty

CHAS. P. McROSTIE
Teacher of
ELOCUTION
Including Vocal Training, Physical Culture, Articulation and Gesture. Trial Tuition Free.
283 Latimer St, or P. O. Box 96

CERTIFICATE OF IMPROVEMENTS.

Campsy Glen Mineral Claim, situate in the Nelson Mining Division of West Kootenay District.

Where located: On Morning Mountain.

Take notice that I, John McLatchie, P.L.S., of the City of Nelson, acting as agent for James McLeod Campbell, Free Miner's Certificate No. B 86,380, intend, sixty days from the date hereof, to apply to the Mining Recorder for a Certificate of Improvements, for the purpose of obtaining a Crown Grant of the above claim.

And further take notice that action, under section 37, must be commenced before the issuance of such Certificate of Improvements.

Dated this 1st day of November, 1900.

JOHN McLATCHIE.

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cut last year on this property will be further developed and from all indications the Emma is likely to prove a big mine.

Work on the No. 7 mine, in Central camp, will be resumed next week. The wagon road is completed to the properties so that work can be resumed under advantages circumstances.

At the smelters things are shaping towards completion and "blowing in." The British Columbia Copper company's smelter has been delayed by the non-arrival of machinery. Buildings and everything were in readiness for the reception of the plant several weeks ago but owing to labor troubles and busy times in the east the E. P. Allis people were unable to send the plant as early as at first thought. Recently, however, the machinery has been coming in and there is now every assurance that the big smelter will be blown in early in the new year.

All the machinery for the Laidlaw smelter has arrived and Jas. Hawley, of the Denver Engineering Works, is here for the purpose of installing the plant. The buildings are all nearly completed.

At the Mother Lode mine the 35-drill compressor is being installed and also the large hoisting engine.

At Phoenix the Knob Hill and Old Ironsides are sending out 600 tons daily and are ready to increase this amount as soon as the capacity of the smelter is increased.

Taking everything into consideration, the outlook never looked brighter. More work is being done and more men are being employed than at any time in the history of the camp.

WINDERMERE.

Development work now going on at the Silver Belt mines is satisfactory to the owners. From the present workings a considerable amount of rich ore is coming out. Shipping is expected to commence by the first of the year.

On the Iron Cap, development work is progressing favorably.

Ore is being lawhided down the mountain from the Paradise mine.

A number of properties in this district will become shippers next spring. Arrangements are now being made for transportation of ore.

HOLIDAY RATES BY THE C. P. R.

In connection with the Christmas and New Year holidays the Canadian Pacific Railway will put into effect the usual local holiday rates of single fare for round trip. Passengers can purchase tickets on the following dates: December 22nd, 23rd, 24th, and 25 good to return January 3rd., and on December 29th, 30th 31st, and January 1st good to return on January 3rd.

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9.00 EX. SUN.	Train for Slocan City, Slocan points, and Sandon.
16.00 EX. SUN.	Steamer for Kaslo and intermediate points.
18.40 DAILY	Train for Rossland, Nakusp, Revelstoke, Main Line and Pacific Coast points.

For time-tables, rates and full information call on or address nearest local agent, or
R. W. DREW, Depot Agent.
H. L. BROWN, City Agent. } Nelson, B.C.

W. F. Anderson, Trav. Pass. Agent, Nelson, B.C.
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