

3.2. Reports and Articles from the *Cumberland News*

1897.2.2. p.4. Mr. McInnes opposed to Chinese Immigrants in a Public Speech

MR. MCINNES, M.P.

Addresses the Electors at Courtenay—A Well Attended Meeting.

By our Special Correspondent.

It is not often that the electors in this part of the country are favored with post-election addresses from their representatives. The day of election too often means farewell to the people. It was therefore with no small degree of satisfaction that the electors of this district learned that their young, able and popular member would address them, giving an account of his stewardship, learn their

wants and, freely, as their servant, discuss with them individually and collectively, matters affecting the common weal of the district. How hard Mr. McInnes had worked during the short time since election was pretty well known and it is needless to say that fact acted to a great extent as a forerunner of the hearty reception he would receive. The Agricultural Hall was well filled. Mr. John McKenzie, J.P., was voted to the chair. The chairman in a few words announced the object of the meeting and called upon Mr. McInnes to speak. As he stepped to the platform and faced the audience, the young member was greeted with loud applause. The last time, said the speaker that I met you I felt downcast. I was told that influences were against me and I would have hard work to find a McInnes man. The glorious 23rd, of June had passed. Before then he had attacked the Conservative party, the corruption that existed and the fostering under its policy of monopolies. The result of the election proved that the people were tired of the late government. The speaker then alluded to the attempt of Sir Charles Tupper to hang on to power after an adverse verdict had been rendered. This attempt of usurpation of power was, thanks to a Scotch Governor-General of the type of Lord Aberdeen, frustrated. The Hon. Mr. Laurier had formed a government and had chosen as his colleagues therein men, who individually and collectively, were the strongest ever entrusted with the control of the Dominion. Mr. McInnes then referred to his ante-election statements and to how he had since acted. He had gone to Ottawa before

the session opened and he intended to go there again before the ensuing Parliament. A member could get a better audience with the Ministers before Parliament met than during its sitting, when so much occupied the attention of the Government. He contradicted a rumor that he intended to leave the Province, and asked his hearers why should he leave so glorious a place. Mr. McInnes referred to the honour that had been conferred upon him in being entrusted with the moving of the address in reply to the speech from the throne. He had been criticised for that speech. He had made statements in the House then, as he had done before, and he did not believe in fearing to attack a man to his face. British Columbia had fallen in for a good share in the speech. He spoke of this Province then that the members assembled might learn something of it and because the newspapers would herald abroad his utterances, thus making known something of British Columbia. Members who had in the past gone from British Columbia had never said anything about the place. As to the tariff it was impossible to do away with it entirely. It would be revised, so that, subject to the requirement of the revenue, the high tariff wall will be pulled down. Mr. McInnes then explained the work entrusted to the tariff Commission. He alluded to the School question which had been settled by a policy of conciliation. The Chinese question was referred to and his position already taken thereon. He was opposed to the Chinese. The speaker then read what he had obtained for his constituency. Among other things a semi-weekly mail service would be inaugurated. In speaking about the mail service to this district Mr. McInnes mentioned that the E. & N. Co., had asked for a semi-weekly one, a sum which if there were a road between Comox and Nanaimo would secure them fifteen mails a week, if wanted. The electors must look to a government nearer home. Why had you not an independent means of exit? Alberni had a semi-weekly mail service and you could have one at comparatively small cost, if only that road were opened. The speaker concluded by thanking the audience and promising to watch their interests and to come again among them. The eloquent member then sat down amid loud and prolonged applause. The chairman then asked if anyone had any questions to ask. Several questions were then put to Mr. McInnes and answered by him.

The meeting after passing a vote of thanks to the member adjourned.

ANOTHER ACCOUNT

Among other things said by Mr. McLane at Courtenay, he declared the Tories were like animals squealing at an empty trough—will squeal for the next 24 years; the next conflict he said would be between church and state; the bitter monster of clerical control must be killed. The duty on woollens, agricultural instruments, mowing machinery and binding twines will be removed—no demand for lowering tariff on farm produce, therefore no change on farm produce.

In reply to Mr. Mundell, he said that prohibition would be according to the wishes of the people as expressed in the plebiscite. Mr. Matherson asked re squatters rights. He replied they should have rights in coal here as on Fraser River. Mr. McPhee enquired with reference to straightening the Courtenay River and providing for fishway. He said way would be provided. In regard to extension of E & N. railway, he said he would support a demand for subsidy with a rider that no Chinese should be employed. Mr. Eckstien asked about telegraph office at Union, and that it be kept free from party control and with security for secrecy. He said that was being attended to. Mr. Mundell enquired if there was any means of inducing a County Court judge to consult his own convenience less, and that of the people of the district more. Mr. McLane replied that he was sorry Mr. Hunter was not present to answer that question, as although the judges are appointed and paid by the Dominion Government, the Provincial Government fixes their jurisdiction and controls their movements.

A resolution was unanimously passed instructing Mr. McLane to do his best to keep unchanged the present tariff on farm products.

On Saturday morning Mr. Jake Thompson took some men up to timber the air-way in No. 5 Shaft where there is usually a little rift of gas, an explosion followed the introduction of the light, burning Mr. Thompson and Mr. Austin on the arms, neck face and hands. They were taken to the hospital, where they are doing well. They will be allright after their wounds heal. The explosion blew Mr. Steve Sargent a few feet and a Chinaman against a post, breaking his arm. It should be known that this accident was not in the shaft where the minners are working.

MINERS ACT SUSTAINED

Victoria, Feb. 6. The full court, consisting of Justices Drake, Walkem, and McColl, this morning declared the Coal Miners' Regulation Act which prevents the employment of Chinese in mines under ground, to be constitutional. A long written decision was handed down.

The judgement of the Supreme Court of British Columbia re Chinese working in mines is to be tested in the Supreme Court of Canada, a notice of appeal having been given yesterday.

One thousand sacks of Van Anda ore were shipped by the City of Nanaimo to Victoria today being on their way to the Everett smelter, also 200 sacks from the Raven.

Chinese Clause Being Enforced.

When the Inspector of mines, Mr. Archibald Dick, was up last week, he instituted proceedings against the Union Colliery Co., to enforce the clause of the Coal Miners' Regulations forbidding the employment of Chinese in mines under ground. The case will come up before Magistrate Abrams on Wednesday upon the arrival of the steamer. Counsel are expected to come up on the steamer to represent the government, also the Company. The Company may intend to appeal the case, so as to get the opinion of the Supreme Court of Canada, and perhaps if need be, of the Privy Council. In the mean time what will be done with the Chinamen we are not advised. We shall content ourselves with faithfully chronicling whatever takes place.

1897.3.23.p.2. Rumor that flesh of Chinese corpses being sold as canned meat

"Ten or fifteen years ago," says a business man quoted by the Philadelphia Record, "the canned meats put up in square tins by American houses were sold in great quantities in Samoa. It was not long before Australia and New Zealand packers saw that they were missing a good thing, so they sent out agents who circulated a story among the natives to the effect that cheap American meats were composed of human flesh. They said that in the process of preparing the bones of dead Chinamen for shipment to the Celestial Empire from San Francisco the meat was canned and labeled 'beef' for Pacific island consumption. The story gained credence to such an extent that the natives shunned the square tins and could only be induced to buy the round, flat tins put out by Australian and New Zealand houses. That preju-

1897.5.18.p.1. Case regarding employment of Chinese in mines

Decision Reserved.

The case re employment of Chinese in the mines, was heard last Thursday before Magistrate Abrams, and Collis, and as a nice question of law was raised, an adjournment was had until May 27th, when it is expected a decision will be rendered.

Mr. Archibald Dick prosecuted and Mr. Maurice Hills, solicitor, ably conducted the defence.

The celebrated celestial Li Hung Chang has written a letter to a young girl in Brooklyn, in which he says: "If your parents are living I hope you are dutiful. Here in China children are carefully taught to love and cherish their parents. I think we are more particular about that in China than Western people are, and it has helped much to make China the oldest of nations." One precept of the decalogue is as emphatic upon the duty of the children to their parents as is any precept of Confucius or any Chinese practice. But in the Western world the law given to Moses enjoining the honoring of father and mother, though coupled with the injunction that this duty be shown that one's days may be long in the land is not reverently followed, particularly in the peart republic of North America. The Jewish peoples are a creditable exception to a rule of filial impiety, not one of neglect of parents, not one of failure to support them in their declining years, but failure in the honoring of parents which is enjoined by the commandments of God and is followed by profound reverence and humility by the peoples of the Orient, whom we are pleased to call barbarians. Our peart and universal Yankee nation, whose inhabitants are much given to elbowing of their seniors out of the way and to flippant disergard in the young generation of the garnered wisdom of the elder, would do well to take a lesson in filial conduct and in divine doctrine from the Semite and the Mongol.

The Chinese Case.

The cases taken under advisement, brought by the Inspector of Mines, against employment of Chinese under ground, was decided Thursday, the magistrates treating them as one case, being brought all at the same time for an infringement of the Regulation on the same day and tried together. The satutory fine of \$100.00 and costs was imposed. As the other case was appealed, it is probable that this may take the same course.

1895.6.15.p.1. Judge rules penalties issued for employment of Chinese cannot be imposed

Latest by Wire

The Conviction in the Chinese Case Quashed. A Province may Legislate against the employment of Chinese in mines, but has provided no penalty.

THE CHINESE CASE.

VICTORIA, B. C. June 14.—[Special to the News] Judge Drake has given judgment in the appeal of the Union Colliery Co. against convictions by the Comox-Unoin magistrates for employing Chinese in their mines. The convictions are quashed, for although the employment of Chinese is forbidden, such employment is not made an offense for which a penalty can be imposed.

TO BE APPEALED

Victoria, June 28th. [Special to THE NEWS.]—The government will appeal from the decision of Judge Drake, in the Coal Mining Regulation case, that although the employment of Chinese underground was prohibited yet a penalty could not be imposed.

The Vices and Virtues of Chinatown.

If you made with me a complete tour of Chinatown, visiting every place where a Chinaman dwells, when you had returned you would sum up what you had seen about as follows:—

Places where opium was smoked by Chinese in their own private apartments: about one-fourth of the whole.

Places where opium was sold to white visitors who smoke and slept on the premises, and which is commonly called an "opium joint" possibly three in your whole tour.

Places where gambling was in progress: about one-twentieth of the whole.

Places where men were pursuing the ordinary vocations of life: nearly three-fourths.—"The Chinese of New York," by Helen F. Clark, in the Century.

THE appeal in the case re the Chinese working under ground was dismissed by the Supreme Court at Ottawa, on the ground that an appeal did not lie from an opinion given by the Supreme Court of British Columbia in answer to a question propounded by the Attorney-General. The result is at present that the law stands as constitutional in the opinion of the B.C. Supreme Court, but without any penalty to enforce it—a dead letter.

Successful Raid

The Government Agent authorized a raid in Chinatown last night which resulted in a big haul. Mr. Eugene Doyle, by reason of his ability to speak "heathen" was chosen to reconnoiter. Upon his report a posse of specials was organized consisting of E. Doyle, Tom Hudson, J. Bruce, F. Dangeheld, J. McKim, J. White G. McGargle, F. Dalby, Ed. Calnan, led by Constables Thomson and Baird.

At 8:30 the rush was made. Doyle was inside. The Fan Tan was the game. The Johnnies were taken by surprise. They made for the back way; there stood Doyle who instantly presented arms. The Chinese to the number of 33 were captured and marched to jail.

1898.1.31.p.1. Regina v. Little - No penalty for employing Chinese

THE CHINESE CASE.
Victoria, Jan. 29.—Regina vs. Little;
appeal from decision of Judge Drake was
dismissed. This decides there is no pen:
alty for employing Chinamen.

1898.3.1.p.4. Government to introduce bill providing penalties for violating Chinese Act

**THE government promises to bring in
a bill to provide a penalty for violation of
the Chinese Act. Then we suppose the
constitutionality of the Act will be tested
in the higher court.**

1898.3.15.p.4 Revised Statutes contains penalty clause for Asians working underground

THE new Revised Statutes just approved by the Lieut.-Governor contains a penalty clause against Chinamen or Japanese working in mines under ground, so that all is left is to test the constitutionality of the law in the courts. The Supreme Court of British Columbia has already passed on the question, and now it remains for the Supreme Court of Canada, and the Privy Council to record their guess.

1898.4.26.p.8. Inspector of Mines instituted 4 proceedings for enforcing statute against employment of Chinese

Mr. A. Dick, Inspector of Mines, was up last week and instituted proceedings in four cases for enforcing the statute against the employment of Chinese under ground. The cases are expected to be heard on Thursday of this week.

THE CHINESE CASE.

The case for employing Chinamen in the mines under ground was heard last Thursday before magistrate Abrams and Collis. Mr. A. Dick, inspector of mines, appeared for the prosecution, and lawyer Cassidy for the defence. A fine of \$100 was imposed. Apparently there was no effort on the part of the defence to prevent a conviction here, the object evidently being to have the case in proper shape for consideration in the higher courts. It is supposed the contention will be that the Act under which the information was laid was not within the power of the Provincial legislature in so far as it excludes Chinamen solely on the ground of their nationality. So far as danger to white men from the presence of Chinamen in the mines, the official reports show a less proportion of accidents are attributable to Chinamen, than to whites, numbers being taken into account. We are not arguing the matter, only stating that appeared in proof.

THE CHINESE CASE.

The case for employing Chinamen in the mines under ground was heard last Thursday before magistrate Abrams and Collis. Mr. A. Dick, inspector of mines, appeared for the prosecution, and lawyer Cassidy for the defence. A fine of \$100 was imposed. Apparently there was no effort on the part of the defence to prevent a conviction here, the object evidently being to have the case in proper shape for consideration in the higher courts. It is supposed the contention will be that the Act under which the information was laid was not within the power of the Provincial legislature in so far as it excludes Chinamen solely on the ground of their nationality. So far as danger to white men from the presence of Chinamen in the mines, the official reports show a less proportion of accidents are attributable to Chinamen, than to whites, numbers being taken into account. We are not arguing the matter, only stating that appeared in proof.

1898.5.10.p.1. John Bryden, shareholder of Union Colliery Co. has commenced action against the company for employing Chinese underground

ANOTHER CHINESE CASE.
Victoria, May 7th—John Bryden, shareholder of Union Colliery Co., has commenced an action against the company for employing Chinamen underground. It will be tried Monday. Several witnesses are down from Union.

1898.5.10.p.2. Chinese eat shark fins

Put to Many Uses.
Sharks furnish a number of valuable products. The liver of the shark contains an oil that possesses medicinal qualities equal to those of cod-liver oil. The skin, after being dried, takes the polish and hardness of mother-of-pearl. The fins are always highly prized by the Chinese, who pickle them and serve them at dinner as a most delicate dish. The Europeans, who do not appreciate the fins as a food, convert them into a fishglue. As for the flesh of the shark—that, despite its oily taste, is eaten in certain countries. The Icelanders, who do a large business in sharks' oil, send out annually a fleet of a hundred vessels for the capture of the great fish.

1898.6.14.p.8. BC MLA Thos. Foster discusses Chinese question during evening meeting

He then spoke of the railway policy of the Government, which he condemned. He thought they should follow the example of Anstralia, as far as practicable, and own their own railways. He declared the Government was shifting. First, it was land grants, then guarantees of capital and interest, and now that they had no more land to give, an out-and-out cash subsidy was given. He also discussed the finance of the Province, and claimed the Provincial debt was something like \$2,000,000 larger than the Premier had stated when here. After touching upon the Chinese question and some minor matters he sat down amid applause.

1898.7.19.p.8. Convictions in Chinese cases Thursday, fines imposed \$25 and costs

There were seven convictions in the Chinese cases Thursday. The fines imposed were \$25 and costs.

CHINESE ACT AGAIN SUSTAINED,

r
y
of
d
Nanaimo, July 15.—It is just learned that Anti-Chinese Act has been sustained by the full court in the case of Bryden vs. Union Colliery Co. The company was given leave to appeal to the Privy Council.

1898.7.26.p.1. Manager of Alexander mines charged in 8 cases of employing Chinese underground

Chinese Cases

Nanaimo, July 55—John Dick, manager of the Alexander mines, was charged in eight cases of employing Chinese underground, and was fined \$50 besides costs in each case—\$400 and costs in all.

We publish elsewhere an article over the signature of Mr W. J. McAllan relating to the employment of Chinese. We think Mr. McAllan assumes too much when he says that if only white men were employed the price of digging coal would be increased. We don't know that. It also occurs to us that both the miners and the company know what they are about, and that at least they think they make more money by using Chinamen. For ourselves we would like to see all the Chinese go; but then like others we sometimes employ them.

THE COAL MINES

AND THE CHINESE

During the late election campaign a great deal was said on this question on both sides but from the number of enquiries since made of the writer, it is evident that the bulk of the people have failed to thoroughly grasp the subject in its most important features so far as the miner is concerned, viz., who reaps the benefit of the Chinese cheap labor underground, the miner or his employer? And it is the intention of the writer in this article and in others which may follow to show clearly and convincingly that the miner does not reap one cent of advantage in any shape or form whatever; but that on the other hand the employment of Chinese underground enables the Union Colliery Co. to protect the whole of the margin between the remuneration it would be necessary to pay white labor and the diminished wages now paid to Chinese.

The Wellington mines are run on a white labor basis, and the miners are paid so that the average wage shall run about \$3.00 per man or \$6.00 for the two men working in each stall or place. In Union it is different as the mines there are run on a Chinese labor basis and the miners are paid so that they can average about \$4.50 a shift for two men, that is \$3.00 for the white man and \$1.50 for the Chinaman helper, and Mr. Dunsmuir's company pockets the the other \$1.50. Now if the company would even halve this margin with the miner, he (the miner) would be gaining something; but no, in this as well as others the company gets the "whole cheese."

The manner in which the Union miners pay is cut down is this: that whereas in Wellington the mine's coal (less 5 per cent for dust) is weighed on the top before being dumped; the Union miner's coal has to run over a screen, during which process from 25 to 40 per cent of it runs into "nut car," the remainder which runs into the "big coal" car, is weighed and it is this residue that the miner receives 75 cents a ton for. So that it is only a matter of a few figures to

determine the actual tonnage paid under the different systems of working. White labor system—75 cents a ton, subject to 5 per cent deduction for dust; 71½ cents per ton on everything filled. Chinese labor system—75 cent a ton after 25 per cent of the coal has been screened; 56½ per cent a ton on the coal the miner actually digs and fills. These figures show a clean gain to the company of 15 cents a ton from the miners alone, then there are pushers, tracklayers, water bailers, and shift Chinamen, by employing which the company are also gainers. The Union miner would be benefitted in employing Chinese labor if the same rates were in force there as prevail in Wellington, but as shown that is not so; the cents per ton are the same, but the tons are different.

So that it is an evident fact that it will be neither gain nor loss to the Union miners to dispense with the Chinese helpers as in the event of their going the U. C. Co. would be compelled to pay Wellington rates, and knowing this it is the U. C. Co. and not the miners that is fighting for the retention of the Chinese, and it is probable that the people who would reap most benefit by their exclusion would be the ranchers, because to maintain the present out-put of double the white mining population would be required, consequently doubling the ranchers' trade. In this article I have brought into question only the collieries at which I have worked.

W. J. McAllan.

Empire Applied Here.

Nearly every Chinese mercantile store in this country has attached to it a Chinese doctor and a pharmaceutical department. In China every one chooses his own occupation, and any person may assume the title of physician without having given previous evidence of his professional competency. There are no medical colleges, and no examination tests exist to worry the minds of the future practitioners. And neither are diplomas asked for or granted.

This unlimited liberty of selecting an occupation has resulted in making the Chinese medical profession very large, and when the Chinese start a business a Chinese doctor is always included as one of the partners, and he acts as physician and apothecary for the firm. In China Chinese apothecaries, before they can carry on their business, must pass an examination and must exhibit a diploma from the examination board. Medical study consists in mechanically learning the old Chinese medical works, and, when possible, the inherited knowledge of remedies all in accordance with the Chinese maxim, "The older the better."

When a physician has been unsuccessful, he retires. In the common Chinese adage that "there is no medicine for sickness, but none for the doctor." Sometimes an invalid will go to a doctor and ask for how much he will cure him, and how soon the cure can be performed. He states the diagnosis of his case, the pulse is examined and every other symptom investigated, when a bargain is struck and a portion of the price paid. The patient then receives the suitable medicines in quantity and variety better fitted for a horse than a man, for the doctor reasons that out of a great number it is more likely that some will prove efficacious, and the more he gets paid for the more he ought to administer. A decoction of a kettleful of simples is drunk by the sick man, and he gives up both working and eating. If, however, at the expiration of the time specified he is not cured, he scolds his physician for an ignorant charlatan who cheats him out of his money and seeks another, with whom he makes a similar bargain, and with probably similar results. The visits and examinations are very reasonable in price, varying in amount from 15 cents to \$1. The fee is wrapped up in red paper and is called golden thanks.—New York Sun.

TRAITS OF THE CHINESE.

Their Utter Indifference to Suffering and Their Business Honesty.

The Chinaman is not wantonly cruel, but he is marvelously indifferent to the sufferings of others. The cook will cover a rat with kerosene and set it alight, not to enjoy its sufferings, but because he believes its screams will scare its fellows away. A magistrate will fan himself gently on the execution ground on which a yelling malefactor is being gradually cut to pieces, not because he enjoys the spectacle, but because it is all part of his day's work. A crowd of spectators will watch a child drown because it is no one's special business to save it and because to interfere in what does not concern you may give rise to trouble.

From what has been already said as to the keen interest taken by the Chinese in money matters it may be surmised that they should be par excellence a "nation of shopkeepers." And so they are. To their credit be it said that they have thoroughly realized that bargains are binding. The tea merchant may endeavor in every way to get the better of his European confrere, but once the mystic words "puttee book"—i. e., enter it in writing—have been uttered the latter may rely on the transaction being faithfully carried through. This comparatively high standard of commercial morality naturally results in an elaborate system of credit, greatly to the advantage of both contracting parties, and, though the "squeeze," or perquisite, enters into every arrangement, it is not sufficient to stop the wheels of commerce, though undoubtedly it frequently clogs them.

To go back on your word in a business transaction or to fail to meet your liabilities causes a Chinaman to "lose face," and this is to him unbearable. The sacrifices which he will make on the approach of his new year to enable him to avoid being posted as insolvent are as extraordinary as they are admirable. Nor would it be right to omit all reference to the fact that to their justice they frequently add generosity. I well remember a case in which an American who had failed after years of labor was supported during the remainder of his life by his "compradore," as the native employed by European firms in their dealings with Chinese is termed. —Contemporary Review.

1898.9.20.p.1. Alexandra and Extension coal mine to not employ more Chinese underground

CHINAMEN GOING.
Nanaimo, Sept. 17—[Special]—I am informed on excellent authority that the owners of Alexandra and Extension coal mines have decided not to employ any more Chinese under ground in the workings of either of the two mines.

1898.9.20.p.1. Manager of Alexander mine fined for employing 11 Chinese underground

MORE CHINESE CASES.
Nanaimo, Sept. 17—John A. Dick, manager of the Alexander mine, was fined yesterday for employing 11 Chinese underground \$550, or \$50 in each case.

UNION NOW AND THEN.

Union has put off its store clothes, decked itself in city attire, assumed a new title, and struts about with metropolitan airs!

How fast the world moves! I can remember the day when it was necessary to thread your way to Union through a tortuous trail, more narrow and crooked than the entrance to Santiago de Cuba, and when you reached Morro Castle, or Castle Garden, you were immediately confronted with half a dozen log cabins, containing one white woman, a dozen or more not very white men, and the usual complement of nondescript individuals, termed Chinamen. This primitive Dawson City was called "The Mines." All the mines that were visible to the naked eye was a rat hole in the bank near where the powder house stands (or used to stand) with the pigtail of a Chinaman, dangling occasionally at the entrance. I presume you have more than a dozen log cabins in Cumberland now; and as for new women and children, you must have well nigh a hundred, [1000.] I am delighted to learn of your rapid growth, commercial enterprise and increasing prosperity. The opening of the Trunk Road to Nanaimo will be a great boon to your aspiring city, as well as the entire Comox district. A more regular mail service, better communication with the outside world, and many other advantages will be sure to follow.

1898.9.24.p.4. Chinese no longer employed underground in mines

The Chinese are no longer employed underground in the mines here. Some of them will perhaps return to their native land, while others will find employment in various ways here and elsewhere. There will certainly be a thinning out in their ranks here.

1899.1.7.p.1. 400 Chinese left section as Colliery Co ceased underground employment

STEVENSON'S & CO.

Friday, three gangs of Chinamen, who have been at work on the new railway branch over the Trent River, went below. This makes about 400 Chinamen that have left this section since the Colliery Co., ceased to employ them underground.

1899.2.14.p.2. Recent book on China argues that Chinese burglars oil their bodies and twist pigtails

CURIOUS CULLINGS.

In a recent book on China the author says that Chinese burglars are difficult to catch, as they oil their bodies all over and twist their pigtails into bunches stuck full of needles.

CHINESE UNDERGROUND.

WELLINGTON ENTERPRISE.

The New Vancouver Coal Company, according to the Free Press, had a large number of MEN in the early part of the present week employed in repairing the damage done to Winfield Crescent by the recent cave-in. Our contemporary omitted to mention that this large number of men were composed of the heathen Chinese. Now where these men were working was part of the adit of the old Douglas mine and also below ground. The employment of Mongolians below ground is forbidden by the Coal Mines' Regulation Act. How is it therefore, that these heathen were allowed to be thus employed? Our new Inspector of Mines might be able to give a reply to this query. The employment of these men is another instance of the hypocrisy of the claim of the management of the New Vancouver Coal Company that they employ white labor in preference to Chinese. An opportunity was afforded by this cave-in to give employment to many whites who are at present walking the streets of Nanaimo with their hands in their pockets.

1899.3.7.p.4. Little fun downtown between Chinese

There was a little fun down town Monday between a Celestial and one of his patrons in the laundry line. A police officer settled the dispute amicably, and the Chinaman went on his way rejoicing.

1899.4.15.p.8. Judgment was given in favor of Celestials in court case

The Hon. Judge Harrison held a sitting here on Thursday of the County Court. The only case of interest was that of an Italian against a Chinaman for detention and loss by the latter of some wearing apparel sent to the laundry. Judgement was given in favor of the Celestial with costs.

1899.4.15.p.9. Bloody highbinder row broke out in Chinatown to-day - 3 Chinese were killed

HIYU ROW.

Fresno, Cal. April 21.—A bloody Highbinder row which has been expected for sometime, broke out in China Town to-day. As result, 3 Mongolians now occupy slabs in the morgue. Two more are in hospital morgue, wounded; and 9 are behind bars in county jail. The trouble arose over the conviction of Tay Choy, who was yesterday removed to San Quentin to serve ten years for murder in second degree.

1899.6.17.p.8. Are people agitating white labor by awarding their contracts to Chinese

We wonder if it is true that one of the noisome anti-Chinese agitators in this town is encouraging(?) white labor by giving contracts to Chinamen to clear off his ranch.

AH LON.

Ah Lon was 16, and, considering that she had grown up in China Town, remarkably sweet, albeit with a tinge of bitterness. She was also pretty, with soft curves in her face and intelligence in her large, oblique eyes. She wore a neat frock of dark blue linen, made with a long square Chinese jacket and full trousers. A round club of wood fitting the nape of her neck was her pillow. She could only afford to have her hair combed with the seven combs, and worked into shining cues, stuck fast with pomatums, then pinned fast upon her head.

For Ah Lon was not the daughter of a rich merchant, but of a poor seamstress, who lived in a rickety old building, more respectable than many in China Town, but patronized by rats if not by opium fiends. Ah Lon and her mother, a withered old woman with a determined temper, lived on the third floor, and sewed week in and week out for the Chinese women who spent the dollars of the rich merchants.

Until Ah Lon passed her fifteenth birthday she was happy enough. From her window she could look into the grand restaurant opposite, whose walls were of carved wood gilded, and whose balconies were crowded with palms in beautiful vases and hung with Chinese lanterns. There was a banquet almost every night, and the wealthy merchants in their satin and crepe garments sat about the little tables and dined off tiny plates of tinier portions, while women sat close by and sang in monotonous, discordant voices. The opium smokers lay on marble couches in the recesses of the rooms and looked with filmy scorn upon the beasts who cared for food. Once a week Ah Lon went with her mother to the joss-house and worshiped the magnificent idols of ivory and gold, and once she went to the theater and listened for three hours to a play she could not understand. But, although there was no scenery, she admired the gorgeous gold embroidered robes of the actors so much that she forgot to be bored, and finally went to sleep on her mother's shoulder.

Beyond these brief experiences and what she saw from her eyrie, Ah Lon knew nothing of the world. Her mother had told her once that outside of China town—a swarming precinct not a half mile square—was a great dust colored city called San Francisco, wherein only an occasional washhouse bore the faintest resemblance to any of her native place. But Ah Lon had never seen it, although strange foreign looking people came sometimes with a policeman to poke their noses about China Town, to the phlegmatic contempt of the race that bled and despised them.

"Mother," said Ah Lon one day, "some girls have fathers. Have I not one?"

"Perhaps," said the mother, whose wrinkled eye sockets suddenly contracted.

"Where, then, is he?"

"Under the pavement in a bunk, smoking opium night and day—unless he is dead."

Ah Lon stared at her mother with expanded eyes. She knew that life was not particularly interesting for little girls whose mothers were poor, but it was her first intimation that it might be ugly. Usually, when her mother spoke at all, it was to give her daughter brief orders. Upon rare occasions Wo Ling talked of the Flowery Kingdom of her youth, rocking herself back and forth and crouching the while.

"Will he never come back?"

"Ask no more," interrupted her mother fiercely. "I have told you this that you may know what will befall you if you marry. He beat me and he beat you, but you were too young when he deserted us to remember. We were not so poor then, and had saved money. He took it all to buy him opium in a hole underground, and left us to work our fingers to the bone. Never shall you marry so long as I have strength in my right arm to beat you."

"But are all men alike?" asked Ah Lon naively. She had seen slim and prosperous looking young men sit down to dinner opposite.

"All that you will ever meet. Talk no more."

But a week later Ah Lon came home one day after delivering a dozen little jackets for a merchant's child and found Wo Ling pounding her knees with her clinched hands. The woman's patient face was contorted, her eyes glittered with the sunken fires of her nature. It was the first time that Ah Lon had seen her mother excited, and

Lon had seen her mother excited, and she dropped the little bag of silver to the floor and stood wringing her hands. "What is it?" she asked. "What is it?"

Wo Ling clasped her hands hard together and set her face.

"Your father," she said. And it was some moments before she could speak again.

"He is dead?" asked Ah Lon in a whisper.

Wo Ling shook her head. Finally she spoke. "He has been doing work for one of the rival secret societies—those who rule us here in China Town and our own souls, who murder and are never caught by the big white policemen with the clubs: he has done murder and all kinds of terrible work for one of these societies—I do not know which—and the other knows of it at last and is hunting him down. He sends me word that he will come here tonight and that I must hide him."

In spite of her horror Ah Lon thrilled with the first excitement which had come into her life.

"He will come?" she gasped.

"Yes, but he shall not stay. When the highbinders follow, they can have him."

Ah Lon had never contradicted her mother—indeed, she had thought her second in wisdom only to the priest in the joss-house. But the inherited instinct rose in rebellion, and she said timidly:

"He is my father. I should like to protect him."

Wo Ling sprang to her feet and catching Ah Lon by the shoulder hurried her out to the little balcony and pointed downward to a large shop, whose windows glittered with masses of rich stuffs and delicate china.

"You see that," she said hoarsely. "It is owned by the rich merchant, Wong Tee. Such another would your father have been had he not loved opium more than the girl who followed him from China—cast forth by her parents—to grow old and bent and weary in an attic. And I was as beautiful when he left me as you are today—and at 30 you, too, will be old and bent and weary"—She wheeled Ah Lon about and pointed to the little dingy, ill furnished room with the holes the rats had made and the great pile of work. "It will be like that as long as you live," she said. "Shall I not take vengeance on the man?"

Ah Lon, deeply impressed, did not know what answer to make, so she fell to weeping bitterly. Her mother released her, and prepared the evening meal of rice and sausage. Soon after, Ah Lon went into the small room adjoining and crept into her bunk, knowing that she should not sleep that night.

Twice she peered through a crack in the door and saw her mother sitting there, her hands pressed hard against her knees, her head strained forward, her eyes wild. A town clock was booming 2 when Wo Ling, without moving her head, called in a loud whisper:

"Ah Lon."

Her daughter ran to her.

"He is coming," said Wo Ling. "Go down stairs and bring him safely here."

Ah Lon marveled at what she could not understand in her mother's voice, and forgot her fear of rats. She slipped hastily down through the black well of the stair, stopping several times to listen intently. At last she heard some one panting as if in terror, and a moment later stumbled over an ill-smelling heap.

"Ling Tang?" she asked rapidly. "I am Ah Lon, your daughter. Wo Ling waits you, and will give you food. We have sausages and rice."

She turned and ran up stairs. The heap gathered itself together and followed slowly.

"He comes," she said to her mother. And she waited, trembling with curiosity. Wo Ling raised herself to her full height, which was above that of most Chinese women.

The man entered. He had nothing in common with his moon-faced compatriots of the streets, who looked comparatively clean and well-fed, and Ah Lon could not know that underground there were many like him. He was in rags, and what they covered might have rattled, he was so fleshless. His face was wrinkled hide and bony structure, and sparse gray hair fell about it and from his cheeks and chin. He looked 100, and he may have been 35. Ah Lon gave a cry and fled to the bedroom, slamming the door behind her. But Wo Ling took the wreck in her arms.—Gertrude Atherton in *Lady's Realm*.

Skyscrapers Very Old.

Nanaimo, Aug. 10.—Dr. McKech-
nie and R. Smith arrived from Vic-
toria, having interviewed the rep-
resentatives of the Provincial Gov-
ernment in regard to the decision
of the Privy Council declaring UL-
TRA VIRES the clause of the Coal
Mines Regulation Act regarding the
exclusion of Chinese from mines.
The Privy Council decision is final
so far as the province is concerned
and any direct Anti-Chinese Legis-
lation will have to come from the
Dominion Parliament in future. In
the meantime the Provincial Gov-
ernment has decided to make spec-
ial regulations which will have a
strong tendency to exclude, if not
to entirely exclude Chinese from
mines. The new regulations will be
gazetted to-morrow.

"During the last election Mr. James Dunsmuir, campaigning at Union, made great efforts to pose as a friend to the workingmen. Among other pleasant things he gave them to understand that he would not employ Chinamen in the mines. No doubt it may be denied that a specific promise was given—there are always loopholes to wiggle out of election promises; but upon the promise, stated or implied, Mr. Dunsmuir's election largely turned. It appears it was only empty wind for immediately on receipt of a cablegram from England four Chinaman were sent to work underground in the mines at Union, and (we have it on good authority) the Union Colliery Company's superintendent was instructed to hire 400 hundred Chinese, who will be sent up to that ill-fated town shortly."—Nanaimo Herald.

It gives one that "tired feeling," the patent medicine ads tell about to read stuff like that. What Mr. Dunsmuir said was that the miners should take a vote among themselves on the question. If they decide against having the Chinese in the mines he would put them out. No such vote was ever taken for the reason that Mr. McAllan, the opposing candidate, did all in his power to prevent the men from expressing an opinion in the matter. He must of been afraid of the result. These are the facts and we have yet to learn when and where James Dunsmuir went back on his word in the matter. It is no use making incorrect statements in the public press. You are always sure to get caught.

As to that 400 Chinaman yarn, there is not a word of truth in it. The Superintendent of the Union Colliery Co. received no such instructions. Will the Herald name its 'good authority'? Either Ralph Smith et al. were misinformed by their spies, or the Herald's 'information' rests on the same ground as did the Islander's celebrated 'information' about what Collis Huntington and James Dunsmuir were going to do with the Union Mines that time Mr. Huntington's ghost appeared in this town.

"As a matter of strict business it is undeniably to the interest of the Union Colliery Company and of other similar corporations to employ Chinese labor in preference to white labor. Also, we must admit that the U. C. Co. et al. have a primary right to employ whom they please. If they do not wish to employ whitemen, no person has any right to dictate such action to them. On the other hand, if they wish to employ Chinese, no one may say they sha'l not. It is their right."

"And what of the corporations?—of the Dnsmuirs and the U. C. Co., for instance, whose anxiety to em

ploy Chinese impelled them to hale our law from court to court to get it smashed? Let them go—to China."

If the first paragraph is good reasoning (and even the Herald says so) what is the sense of the second?

Say one thing in one sentence and contradict it in the next. You should have left the last part of article over till the first part was forgotten, brother Herald.

Nanaimo, Aug .25.—Deputy Attorney-General McLean arrived from Victoria to confer with Inspector of Mines relative to employment of Chinese at the Pit Head of the Extension Colliery. Some days ago the Inspector found Chinese working there and notified the Manager of the Mines. The Chinamen were in the meantime discharged thus rendering conference unnecessary. McLean has been looking into things relating to government of mines and his trip will not be wholly fruitless.

THE CHINESE.

Our correspondent, X. Y. Z., draws attention to some facts which seem to us not to have been hitherto brought forward in the Chinese question. There are a few other salient points in this connection which might also, we think, merit consideration:

(1.) Comox coal enters into competition not only with the productions of local mines (where conditions however unequal as regards facility of getting at the coal, are on pretty much the same footing as regards cost of labor, etc.,) but, also with Australian and English coal in the chief market, San Francisco. Every one knows that the cost of producing English or Australian coal is very much less than the cost of producing Comox Coal. For wages in England average, say 5s. and in Australia 6s a day. In the latter country, also, the coal is easily mined. It is patent to every thinking person that if the owners wish to make local mines pay, they must keep expenses down. If they had not to compete with foreign coal, as above stated, they could raise the market price. But that is not possible. At best Comox mines do not pay more than 3 or 4 per cent, on capital invested. No one will hold that an exorbitant interest.

No person with common sense will continue a business that does not pay. The mines must pay or shut down, which alternative is preferable to all concerned?

(2.) Chinese underground do not compete with miners. They compete only with laborers. If they mine their pay is the same as that of white miners.

(3) Chinese underground work under the supervision of white men. If the white men exercise proper care, there is no danger from the presence of Chinese.

(4) Chinese compete with white labor in many other branches of industry in the province.

If coal miners have a moral right to prevent their competing with white men in that work, why have not workmen in other industries a right to the same privilege? After all, we must take a fair view of the case.

(5.) The section of the English Act:—

"Any person who, from physical or mental incapacity, is, or may become, a source of danger to other persons employed in the mine etc." refers to idiots and cripples—not to persons who cannot read and write."

(6.) The new Special Rule lately promulgated enact that: "No person who has not been employed before the 9th August, 1899 shall be employed or work underground unless he is able to satisfy the Inspector that he can read and understand the meaning of the Special Rules as printed in the English language."

If that rule had been enforced in England a few years ago, how many miners would have been able to meet its requirements? But nevertheless, we have never heard that their inability to read and write was a source of danger in the mines.

(7.) In reference to the competition with cheap Australian coal it may be said that the freight on Comox coal to San Francisco is about \$2.50 per ton. Australian and English coal, especially the former, pays practically, no freight at all for this reason:—The ships that carry coal from Australia mostly come to San Francisco for grain. They would generally have to come up in ballast, which would cost something to load and unload and would bring in nothing. Therefore the owners buy a cargo of coal cheap at the mines and sell it in San Francisco, so that instead of paying out money for ballasting, they make a profit on their cargo.

(8.) Is it not better for a smaller number of white men to make good wages than for a large number to earn only a bare living?

(9) There are about 10,000 Chinese in this province. Perhaps 250 (at the outside) would be in the mines. That is 1 in 40. Is the employment of such a small percentage likely to "overflow the country with Mongolians" as the B. C. yellow journals pretend?

(10.) Is it not evident that the rabid Government supporters in this province enlarge upon the objections to the Chinese and pass over important considerations on the other side of the question? There is no reason why they should do this except to catch the labor vote; some of them do so, incidentally, to injure their business rivals.

(11.) If the good people of Nanaimo and the N. V. C. Co. have the exclusion of Chinaman so much at heart, why does that Company employ Chinese at all? It certainly casts a doubt on their sincerity. It is within the memory of man that the N. V. C. Co. farmed with cheap Chinese labor and sold potatoes at 50 cts. a sack in Nanaimo, thus spoiling the market for local farmers. How would the Comox farmers and gardeners like to see the long swamp, for instance, farmed on the same principle? And who could stop the the U. C. Co. from doing so if they wished? Yet we do not hold them to be such philanthropists as their exalted neighbors of the Black Diamond City.

In bringing forward these considerations, we do not wish to be understood as either for or against the Chinese. Our aim is simply that all the facts should be brought to light. It is unfair to this town and district, which depend for their prosperity on the success of Union Mines, to allow the prejudiced press of a rival town to spread broadcast one sided arguments and vituperative charges against the owners of these mines without raising a voice for fair play. THE NEWS is run in the interests of this district and it will defend those interests, as far as lies in its humble power, regardless of the anathemas of prejudiced journals or the hole-and-corner whispers of officious travelling examiners. We all make our living in this town and we should all stand up for the welfare of our town.

Surely it ought to be plain to our citizens why a section of the outside provinces should try to make trouble up here. Before we get in to the trap, would it not be well to consider how we shall get out of it?

(CORRESPONDENCE.)

TO THE EDITOR:

A great deal of talk is indulged in in relation to the so-called Chinese question. Very few, however, discuss the matter from a logical standpoint. The workingman's thoughts are often led into the channel dug out by someone or more workingmen who never work except except upon the pockets of those who labor hard for their dollars. The sensible individual strives after that which can, instead of that which cannot be accomplished. On the platform the unscrupulous politician catering to the workingman, will make any promise that he thinks will catch a vote. It is time the people—more especially the laboring class—should ask these who make promises, to state in what manner the same can be carried out. The decision in Bryson vs. the Union Colliery Co., throws much light on the Chinese question, as we call it. It demonstrates that a provincial legislature can act only within certain limits. It goes further and especially declares that "every alien when naturalized in Canada became ipso facto a Canadian subject of the Queen," etc.

teen, etc.

Their lordships declare: "The subject of a naturalization seemed *prima facie* to include the power of acting what should be the consequences of naturalization, or in other words what should be the rights and privileges pertaining to residents in Canada after they had been naturalized."

Now the Naturalization Act (Sec. 3) enacts that "An alien to whom a certificate of naturalization is granted, shall, within Canada, be entitled to all POLITICAL and other rights and privileges * * * * to which a natural-born British subject is entitled * * * * within Canada."

If such is the case, (and it cannot be denied that it is,) then a naturalized subject ought to be allowed to vote in the same manner as a natural born subject of the Queen. How would the workingman like to see every British subject have a vote? It behooves the workingman especially to see that in striving to ameliorate his position he does not reach for more than he can get. The story of the dog crossing the stream has been proven true very often in the past. I may in this case adduce further proof of the logic of the fable.

Yours etc.,

X. Y. Z.

POLICE COURT—Before Justices Dunne and Moore: John Potter charged with stealing money from George McLean, at Waverly Hotel. Sentenced to three months in Nanaimo jail. Defendant has been up on other charges before.

Theodore Cadona, charged with assaulting Chinaman—Fined \$2.50.

THE TIMES AND THE CHINESE.

The Times of September 2nd takes the question of Chinese in coal mines for its theme and deals with it as might be expected of one totally unacquainted with the practical working of a coal mine. We have not space for the whole article, but shall quote parts which the Times evidently considers strong points. For example:

"The Colonist forgets that the Chinaman who cannot spell or read the word 'gas' is also totally ignorant of what gas means, its dangers and the great care that must be exercised in places where it is likely to be. The Chinaman who cannot read this word or understand it when spoken must be, as anyone can see, a source of danger in coal mines where gas is the main terror of the miner's life."

Anyone with a fair knowledge of the facts is aware that the above is altogether incorrect. Because a man is illiterate it does not at all follow that he is ignorant in any case. As we pointed out in a previous article, fifty years ago many miners in England were illiterate, but no one ever held their presence in a coal mine to be dangerous.

In the next place, there is not a Chinaman employed underground in these mines who is not fully aware of the danger of gas—whether he can spell the word or not does not seem to affect the case. What he does know is that if he sees words chalked anywhere, in the mine, it means danger, just as every miner understands. Again, we have the testimony of underground managers to the effect that generally speaking, Chinese are more care-

managers to the effect that generally speaking, Chinese are more careful than white men, and though Chinese have hitherto been freely employed, we have never yet heard of an accident in the mines attributable either to the carelessness or ignorance of a Chinaman.

The Times says further:

"In this lies the strongest argument against the employment of Chinese in mines—they cannot be made to understand the nature of this element which continually menaces the coal miner's life. It would be as sensible to allow a Senegambian negro who had never seen a firearm or gunpowder to be employed in a powder-magazine or cartridge factory, as to allow a Chinaman ignorant of the nature of gas to enter a coal mine."

That is no argument at all. For if only those who 'understand the nature of this element' (gas) were permitted to work in a mine we can safely say, without wishing or meaning to cast any reflections, that seventy-five per cent of the white men now working in mines would have to be excluded. Why? Simply because it requires a considerable scientific as well as practical knowledge to understand the nature or causes of the existence of gas. The Times forgets, also, that the Chinese employed underground have nearly all been working for many years. Moreover, no inexperienced China-

man is ever given charge of a stall.

The whole of the Times' editorial is weak and betrays a lamentable ignorance of the question it endeavors to treat of, but it is only what might be expected from a writer who up to a month ago was unaware of the manufacture of good coke in British Columbia.

—o—

LOCAL NEWS.

MINERS MEETING.

A largely attended miners' meeting was held last Sunday to discuss the question of the men engaging Chinese helpers, also the mode of paying salaries to checkweighmen.

F. Parks was appointed Secretary and Thos. Ripley Chairman. As regards the pay of checkweighman, it was decided to levy a percentage on the weight of coal taken out.

There was considerable discussion over the Chinese and it was finally decided that, owing to the scarcity of white laborers, each miner might please himself about employing Chinese. Accordingly the resolution to exclude Chinese, passed at a previous meeting, was rescinded.

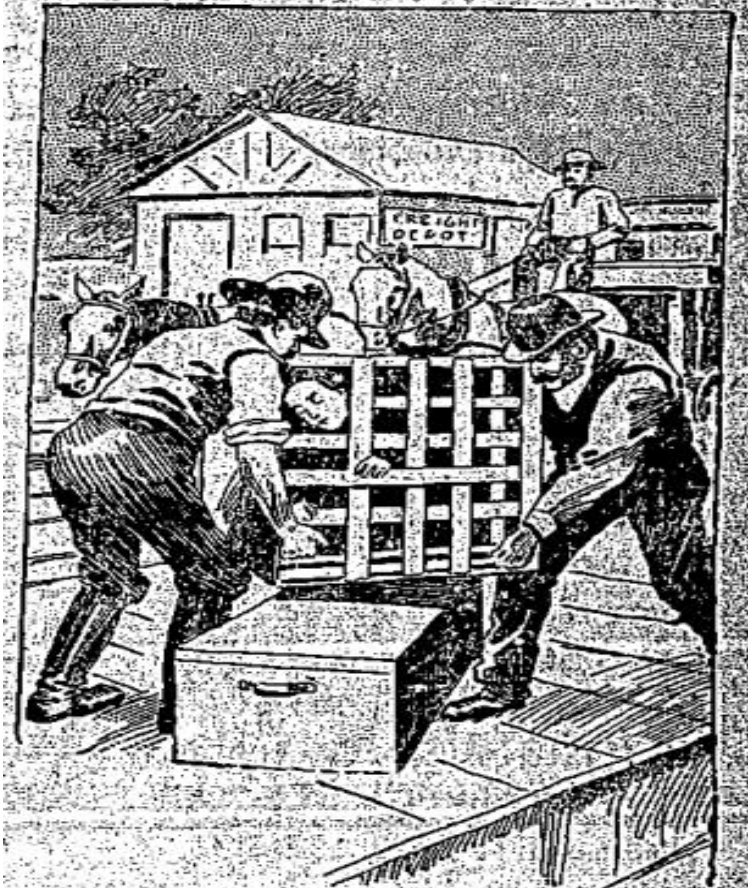
Editor Cumberland News:

I have had the pleasure of seeing a copy of the resolutions passed at the miners' meeting, in your town, on the 17th inst. A set of resolutions, which stamps every man who acquiesced or voted, aye, on the same, I say, stamps him as a liar. Take for instance, the one which reads as follows: Whereas, owing to the scarcity of white labor, the former resolution to exclude Chinese be rescinded, and be it resolved, we take them in again. I have mislaid the copy, but it reads as above. How will that look to their brethern at Wellington, Extension and Alexandria, who are out of employment?

If that band of men will consent to have their photo taken, I guarantee to sell a hundred of them, so that when we ship the Chinese back to the land they came from, we can include the Union miners. There are large coal deposits in China, and then we can send them along to work with their equals, by their own admission, viz, the Heathen Chinese. . MINER.
Wellington, Sept., 25th, 1899.

Horrors of Chinese Slavery.

Vancouver advices speak of the sale of two Chinese girls into slavery by their father at Quesville. A pioneer of the Caribou district is reported as saying that in his experience this has occurred more than once, for girls have been brought all the way from China to be slaves of bachelor Chinese, who live by mining or fishing in the interior. He says that as high as \$500 has been paid, and then the



SHIPPING A CHINESE SLAVE GIRL AS FREIGHT.

girls were only 13 or 14 years old. On one occasion a Chinese girl was sent to Caribou crated as freight. At the end of the trip she was so exhausted that she became hysterical and was thus discovered. The authorities say that this kind of traffic has been going on in an underhand way too long, and people in the community in which the outrage was perpetrated threaten to deal summarily with the offenders. The girls are bright children and are very adverse to returning to their unnatural parent.

THE CHINESE QUESTION.

How would this solution of the Chinese Question meet the views of those who are interested in it?

Enact a law that no Chinaman shall be allowed to land in British Columbia, unless accompanied by his wife and family.

The \$50 Tax has not kept them out of this Province.

The \$500 Tax has not entirely kept them out of Australia or New Zealand.

This law, I claim, would restrict as much as the \$500 Tax, because the custom is to leave the wife and children as security for the passage money advanced by the parties engaged in that way of making money, until the borrower pays up the advance. The law would ensure us a better class of Chinese, because if he could not leave his family as security he would require to be known as a reliable man to be entrusted with the passage money for himself and family without security and we know that the Chinaman won't run unbusiness like risks. Very few would be able to come under this restriction.

If the families were here the constant drain of money to China would be closed as it would be needed to maintain the family and so stop the constant cry of "Oh, they send all their money out of the country to their friends."

COAL MINES ARBITRATION
Evidence taken at Union.

Arbitrators and attorneys arrived here Wednesday evening and spent some hours exploring the mines. Owing probably, to their exertions, some of them were rather slow arriving at the scene of their labors Thursday morning. Mr. Davey put in an appearance at 11 a. m. with the announcement that he had been looking for the place (court house) for half an hour. Court opened at 11 a. m. Archibald Dick, 1st witness, examined by Mr. Cassidy. Had 40 years' experience in coal mines. Was Inspector of Mines in B. C. for 17 years. Found Chinamen and Japs as safe as whitemen. Did not consider it essential that miner should be able to read. Did not enhance his safety in mines. Would not insist on a man's understanding English to work in a mine. Many first class miners did not understand English. During his Inspectorship, slope in Union worked by Chinese never had an accident. Slopes worked by whitemen had. Found Chinese fully as cautious as white miners. As Inspector would not consider himself justified in making a general order to put them out. Had never had any complaints from white miners against Chinese, though he had promised not to divulge names of men making such complaints.

Court adjourned to 2:15 p. m.

The cross-examination of Mr. Dick was resumed Thursday afternoon.

Thought every miner should be able to read 'danger,' 'no road this way.' Never saw such a sign as 'Travelling this way strictly prohibited.' If such sign were put up, it would be necessary that a miner should be able to read it. If a Chinaman and an Italian were both equally ignorant of English, he would prefer a Chinaman because he would exactly as he was told. An Italian would not. Cross examination closed. To Mr. Cassidy. Was now employed by Mr. Dunsmuir. While Inspector gave evidence prosecuting Union Colliery Co. gave evidence then as now. Prosecution of U. C. Co. was to compel them to put Chinese out of mines as provided by Coal Mines Regulation Act. Remembered when Wm. McGregor was killed in No. 1 Shaft, N. V. C. Co. Geo. Reed and Donald Ferguson were also killed. There were no Chinese connected with the accident. Could not speak of the range of accidents there from '73 to the present time. There was no such serious accident in the Union Mines. Referring to Chinese slope, had said roof was very good. As to other tunnels, roofs were fully as good as in Chinese. Did not wish to imply that roof in Chinese slope was better. When explosion occurred in Chinese slope there was no one in the mine, so, of course, no one hurt. It wasn't a Chinaman told Atty. Gen. couldn't understand him (witness). It was an Italian. When an Italian can't talk English he takes a friend along with him who can, until he learns it himself. All the men he met with in going down in the mine appeared to understand instructions. When persons were prohibited from going down a certain road, the fact indicated by closing it up. When the road was closed temporarily, timbers blocked it up. Never knew the fact to be indicated by writings on paper. The actual signs used were 'gas,' 'danger' and 'no road this way.' In the latter case the road was blocked up further on, so that even if a man passed the sign he would have to stop further on. He

would have to stop further on. He would not depend on written notices alone in a mine. In point of fact he could not say, while Inspector, that Chinese and other foreigners employed in mines were a source of danger and he had never notified officials of the same.

To Atty. Gen. When Inspector he might pass Chinamen in the mine who could not speak English. It is possible a man might be a source of danger through ignorance.

To Mr. McAllan. Speaking from records, there were no accidents in Chinese slope, while there were in others. Life preservation is the first considera-

tion in a mine.

To Mr. Wynne: Explosions may take place in mines where there are no Chinamen. After hearing evidence at inquests in '87 and '88 after Wellington explosions, could not concede that explosions were caused by Chinamen. Was never (after explosion of '88) asked by men to take steps to have Chinese removed from mines. A good roof sometimes falls and without cause, it is a very serious accident.

1899.11.25.p.1. Witnesses for the Colliery Co. testify to the safety of Chinese in the mines

Nanaimo, Nov. 24.—Arbitrators in the Chinese cases adjourned at ten o'clock last p. m. to meet again on Tuesday next. They will then conclude taking testimony of witnesses in this city; after which they will go to Union, probably reaching there on Thursday or Fri-

day. Several witnesses for the Colliery Co. were put on the stand yesterday afternoon and testified to the safety of Chinese. Three Chinamen testified that they could speak English and demonstrated that they understood what was required of them in a mine. Case appears to be watched with great interest throughout the province and substance of testimony is published in daily papers.

1900.2.3.p.8. Anti-Chinese crusade not because Chinese are a danger in mines but because they lower rate of wages.

According to the Review, the Anti-Chinese crusade is being waged not because Chinese are a source of danger in mines but because they lower the rate of wages.

* * *

Section 3 of Mr. Kellie's "Short Hair Act" reads:—

"No owner, agent or manager of a mine shall employ underground in any mine to which this Act applies or allow to be underground in such mine for the purpose of employment any person who has or wears hair on the scalp of his head over six inches in length."

This surely must get them where the hair is short. No doubt the Dowager Empress will now promulgate a decree making the orthodox and legal length of Ah Sue's pigtail five inches long instead of five feet. Then perhaps it will wind up in a race between the duration of Kellie's statesmanship and the length of Ah Sue's hair until one goes under or the 'tother goes bald.

Feeding Their Dead.

Twice a year, in the first week of April and October, the Chinese feed their dead. They think, very sensibly, that once their friends and relatives leave this mortal coil they ought to stay away from this world, and to prevent their return they faithfully transmit to them all the necessities of life. It has been discovered by oriental wisdom that the way to transmit servants, songs, plays, books and money is to manufacture them in paper and burn them. But actual eatables must be carried to the grave.

The Chinese are not stingy, and wagon loads of roasted chickens, pigs, ducks, various sweetmeats and fruits are taken to the cemeteries. The food is piled before each grave amid burning red, carrot shaped candles and joss sticks. Then the living prostrate themselves before the dead and beg them to rise up and enjoy themselves. Chinese wines are then sprinkled liberally over the graves, while some graves receive boxes of cigars and packages of cigarettes.

But you must not suppose that the eatables are left on the graves. Oh, no! That would be throwing too much temptation in the way of heathen tramps. In about two hours it is believed that the ghosts got the essence of the eatables conveyed to them, and then the devotees gather up the offerings and carry them home again to feed to their own material bodies. But the cigars and cigarettes are burned on the graves.

VICTORIA NEWS.

Victoria, March 24,—Premier Martin has at last secured the fourth minister. G. W. Beebe of Matsqui having accepted the post of Provincial Secretary.

Coal mines arbitration award briefly thus:

Extension Mine—Not enough evidence produced to prove persons named were sources of danger.

Union Mines—"With exception of Mah Yuen, Mah Poo, Ah Gato, Mong Lee and Dan these men are dangerous."

Not agreeing that all Japs and Chinese are dangerous we are of opinion that a large per centage of them are at both Union and Extension.

Arbitrators failed to agree on question of not employing any not previously employed. Umpire gave special award for opinion of Supreme Court in that all persons working underground should be able to understand instructions given in English, and that rule should be prepared to that end.

MEN WANTED.

500 white miners and helpers
for the Wellington Extension
and Comox mines, to supercede
all the Chinese in our mines.
Apply at once to the managers
of the said mines, Wellington
Colliery Co., Ltd.

WELLINGTON COLLIERY Co., LTD.

MR. DUNSMUIR'S PLATFORM

Perhaps the most striking of all the many platforms before the people of this district is that put forth by the president of the E. & N. R. R. Co., Mr. James Dunsmuir. The importance of this document is mainly due to one section which reads as follows:

8th. "As far as I am concerned, I will do away with all Chinese labor in the coal mines under my control just as soon as I am able to get white men to replace them. I am paying Chinese miners the same rate of wages as I am paying white miners, but in the interest of the country I am quite willing to replace them by white labor."

This declaration transcends in interest all questions of responsible government, taxation and public ownership at least as far as the inhabitants of this island are concerned, for it guarantees that this shall after all be a white man's country, and when one remembers also that the E. & N. R. R. Co. will henceforth recognize organized labor one cannot but feel that a happier era for the working classes is about to commence.

There was a tendency in many quarters to examine the proposition closely, and a suspicion that it was an anti-election promise which means would be found to evade later on. Mr. Dunsmuir's explicit statements at South Wellington, however, dissolves all doubt, and we have no hesitation in acknowledging our conviction that though it seems almost too good to be true, yet it is true, and that the Chinese question as a local issue is settled.

We have no disposition to examine critically the motives which have impelled Mr. Dunsmuir to take this step. It is sufficient for us to accept what he offers in a manly straightforward way and accompanied by a statement of reasons for his former stand that have a strong touch of human nature about them. Nevertheless, our local immunity ought not to cause any relaxation of our efforts to free the province from the yellow scourge. Without undervaluing Mr. Dunsmuir's action in any way we must maintain that it ought to be made impossible for any employer to reproduce the conditions from which he, of his own volition is freeing those communities over which his influence extends.—Review.

1900.6.19.p.1. Reporter states that disease is commonly found in Chinese quarters in Victoria and other cities.

There are many other characteristics, but the above will suffice for our use. Applied to our own conditions what do we find? Clean, dry, well lighted and aired homes are our best protection, while overcrowding (which causes moist, low heat), darkness and filthy surroundings are a constant menace. And where do we find such conditions? To a nicety you will get them in the Chinese quarters in Victoria and other places. I sincerely trust the disease will not get a footing in our country, but if it does the present condition of Chinatown will hold it.

THEIR EVERYDAY LIFE.

A Few Interesting Facts About the Customs of the Celestials of the Chinese Empire.

China is in the world's eye at present writing, so here are a few facts about manners and customs of the Celestials.

According to Chinese custom, the bridal procession is formed at the bride's house. First, there are a number of boys who are hired to walk ahead, carrying red banners fastened to long poles; then come the musicians, some playing wind instruments much resembling in sound Scotch bagpipes, others scraping elongated fiddles, others thumping gongs of various sizes and discordant tone, while some are beating hollow pines of bamboo, which give forth a dull sound. After the band come more boys carrying large parasols, with long red and gold fringe (these parasols are on sticks ten feet long), then more boys with red banners, which bear Chinese characters in gold on either side expressing all sorts of complimentary things to the bride.

The superstitious treatment of disease is an extraordinary feature of Chinese social life. Death, they account for by saying it is in accordance with the "reckoning of heaven," and it would appear that in this at least they are not far out of theirs. Recovery is by grace of some particular god or goddess. They imagine that this evil god works by mysterious influences existing between and among the members of a family, and resulting in illness. Hence great bribes are offered to this pleasant familiar, and large profits to the Taoist priests.

It may be said that the Chinaman is born fishing—he has for ages past cultivated a system of artificial breeding and rearing of live fish for the market in the shops may be seen displayed live and dead fish, fish fresh and salted, smoked and preserved. One variety are like white-bait in basket, graded from tiny things not half an inch long to what appears to be the same fish grown to eight or nine inches in length. These are sold fresh, salted and smoked. Shark fins are a delicacy. There are fish mottled and barred, bright and dull, fish of quaint and to us, unknown shapes, but foremost above all, and everywhere to be seen are the artificially grown live fish.

Chinamen boil their rice in flat vessels shaped like deep saucers. From 20 to 30 inches across and from 6 to 9 inches deep is the usual size of these utensils, which are cast wonderfully thin, the metal rarely exceeding an eighth of an inch in thickness. The blast furnaces are shaped like large, squat lamp chimneys, and fuel and metal are fed through the narrowed opening at the top. The very frugal Chinaman while he works also uses his furnace fire to cook his evening meal.

MINERS ARRIVE.

The first contingent of the 200 miners (some 53) engaged in Scotland to work in the coal mines here, arrived last Saturday night. There were about 120 men in all, the balance remaining at Lady-smith. They came from Hamilton, Lanarkshire, the great mining centre of that country. They left Glasgow on the 18th inst. on the steamer Buenos Ayrian. The employment of white men instead of Chinamen will mean a great deal to Union and Nanaimo. Mr. Dunsmuir is to be congratulated on his determination to employ none but white men in his mines. His political opponents will now see that his advertisement for white miners was not a political dodge after all.

Will the price of "parritch" go up now?

A sailor was brought up Thurs-

1900.10.24.p.1. Blue Ribbon brand does not use Chinese labor

LOCAL ITEMS.

The Blue Ribbon brand of goods
are put up by Canadians. No
Chinese labor employed.

1900.10.31.p.1. Influx of Oriental labor must be controlled is the opinion of Clive Wolley

3. That the influx of Oriental
labor must be controlled and the
Chinese danger averted.

SLOAN'S RESIDENCE.

Nanaimo Contractors Did Not Tender for the Work.

Victoria, Oct. 25.—Speaking at North Saanich last night, Sloan answered Smith's charge that he had built his house with materials from a firm employing Chinese labor, said he had advertised in Nanaimo, Vancouver and Victoria for tenders. He had received none from Nanaimo, and had awarded it to a Vancouver firm, who furnished all materials. He had nothing to do with the matter apart from awarding tender.

To the Electors of Vancouver District.

GENTLEMEN—

The Liberal Conservative Convention held at Nanaimo, has unanimously chosen me as its candidate in the coming election.

I accept that honor as a **STRAIGHT CONSERVATIVE**, and hope to win because the party I represent has made Canada what she is to-day.

I have opposed to me two gentlemen who seek the votes of both parties and dare not come out flat footed for either.

Mr. Sloan has received the nomination of the Liberal Convention, but his platform condemns the Liberal party, and he is seeking Conservative votes.

Mr. Smith is posing as the representative of Labor, whilst he is backed by the most powerful capitalist on the coast.

If you believe that a man can serve two masters, vote for either of these gentlemen. if not, I claim your vote as a man bound only to his party and seeking the support from no one else.

Owing to the lateness of the date of which we became aware of Mr. Bryden's unfortunate decision not to run, it will be impossible for me to see you all, but I will see as many of you as I can and I am authorized to say that I have Mr. Bryden's heartiest support.

The main points in my political creed are:—

1. That the prosperity of the country depends upon the maintenance of harmony between Labor and Capital, and that such harmony must be established by laws just to both.

2. That British Columbia has a

right to much fuller representation and much ampler financial assistance than she at present receives.

3. That the influx of Oriental labor must be controlled and the Chinese danger averted.

4. That a government which breaks its pledges and damages the credit of the country by maladministration of its mining districts, as the present government has done should be turned out of office.

Finally I believe that I have the right cause and the right men on my side, and that you will put your shoulders to the wheel for the next three weeks and land me a winner. In which belief, gentlemen, I remain.

Your obedient servant,

Clive Phillipps Wolley.

Pretty Bit of Superstition.

When a Chinese baby takes a nap, people think its soul is having a rest—going out for a long walk perhaps. If the nap is a very long one, the mother is frightened. She is afraid that her baby's soul has wandered too far away and cannot find its way home. If it doesn't come back, of course the baby will never awaken. Sometimes men are sent out into the streets to call the baby's name over and over again, as though it were a real child lost. They hope to lead the soul back home.

If a baby sleeps while it is being carried from one place to another, the danger of losing the soul along the way is very great. So whoever carries the little one keeps saying its name out loud, so that the soul will not stray away. They think of the soul as a bird hopping along after them.

A SYMBOLIC LANGUAGE.

What an Educated Chinaman Has to Say of Its Peculiarities.

The Chinese language is a purely symbolic language. All other languages are phonetic or alphabetical. In all the phonetic languages the sounds that are heard in the spoken language are analyzed or split up into a few elementary sounds which by combination form words. To each of these few elementary sounds an arbitrary sign on paper is assigned, and these signs constitute the alphabet. Thus in any European language and in any other language except Chinese the sound of the voice in speaking is the basis of the written language. They are all phonetic. If the same sound is used to represent two or more ideas, this makes no difference. The appropriate letters of the alphabet are used, and the writer relies upon the neighboring words to prevent absurdity.

The Chinese written language is totally different from this. It has no alphabet at all and no approach to an alphabet, but proceeds on a different basis, which will be best brought home to an American by a simple illustration: When traveling recently in Belgium, I had occasion to examine a railway time table, and there I found that certain railway stations where refreshments might be procured were marked by a little representation of a wine cup.

This is Chinese writing. What mode of writing could be briefer or more to the purpose or more mistakable! You see the drawing of a glass, it stares you in the face, and you know that refreshments there await your exhausted frame. The symbol expresses an idea quite apart from the spoken utterance of that idea.

The chief disadvantage of any phonetic system is that since the writing follows the sound, and sound of a language is constantly changing, the written language changes too. This change is less rapid since the discovery of the art of printing; but there is still a gradual change. There is no fixity, no element of permanency in such a language. But symbolic language never changes. As long as the idea to be expressed remains the same idea it is expressed the same way. The work written in Chinese thousands of years ago can be read now with ease and certainty.

The Rats They Eat.

"The current impression that Chinamen eat rats—I mean ordinary American rats—is all nonsense," said Dr. James J. Mason, a well known Chinese missionary, chatting about his experiences in the Flowery Kingdom.

"The truth in regard to it is this: There is a small animal in China known colloquially as the tsui-chow, that is often bred especially for food. It infests the ricefields, and is about the size of an ordinary rat, but has a longer body and a head shaped something like that of a ferret. It is a very prolific creature and is sold in enormous numbers in all the markets of the great cities—neatly cleaned and skewered apart and strung in bunches of 20 or 30 on bamboo reeds.

"The tsui-chow is strictly an edible animal, and, feeding entirely on rice, it naturally has very delicate and savory flesh. I have eaten them, and if I had been able to get the rat idea out of my mind would have relished the dish. They taste something like young squirrels, and alive or dead are certainly much less repulsive than many things we commonly esteem as delicacies—eels and frogs, for example."

The periodical ceremony of "feeding the dead" was held at the Chinese cemetery on Sunday. Every three months, food is carried to the graveyard until such time as the bones bleach and are gathered up for shipment to China. The Chinese belief is that the dead must be fed, and four meals a year are considered sufficient. The viands consist of roast pork, ducks, chickens, rice and gin. The food was formerly left at, or on the graveside, but now, it is left just long enough to let the dead know that they are there; and then it is carried off again to Chinatown. Perforated papers are scattered to keep the evil spirits busy. It is supposed that they chase one another through these holes. After the ceremony, when the comestibles are taken home, the remainder of the day is spent in feasting and rejoicing.

CHINESE MUSIC.

The Gong and Bell Play the Most Prominent Parts.

Traditions without number are associated with the origin of nearly every musical instrument in use in China at the present day. String and reed instruments such as were used by the aboriginal tribes were the first known. Next came the drums, which were first used to incite warriors on the battlefield to deeds of valor. There are many kinds of drums, distinguished by names indicating their size and use. Stone preceded metal as a musical substance. In the earliest classes musical stones are mentioned. Sixteen in number were hung by a cord, and the performer pounded out the strains with a small mallet. The stones used by the emperor were made of jade.

Though with most people the trumpet has been given first place among metal instruments, in China the bell takes precedence. The sound is made by striking the rim with a stick. The use of the bell as a musical instrument is, however, largely confined to religious services and processions. Not unusually it is concerted with other instruments.

The gong is even more popular than the bell. The Chinese gongs are of three kinds—the temple gong, the Soochow gong, which is shaped "like a boiler," and the watch gong, which is used to strike the watches, or divisions of time. The gong is probably the most conspicuous at a theatrical performance of any of the various instruments. It is supposed also to strike terror into evil spirits.

Flutes, fics, conch shells, clarinets and the reed organ are the commonest wind instruments. The latter is made by inserting 19 reed tubes into the upper surface of a gourd. The reeds are pierced near the base to prevent the emission of sound until stopped by the fingers of the performer. The mouthpiece resembles the spout of a kettle and is inserted in the side of the gourd. The favorite instruments among the more cultured Chinese are stringed. These include the she, the k'in, which is said to "restrain and check evil passions and correct the human heart;" the p'i-p'a, a four stringed guitar; the yueh k'in, or moon k'in, named from its moon shaped soundboard, which has four strings standing in pairs, tuned as fifths to each other; and the Su-chün, or "standard lute," which has 12 strings, yielding exactly the notes of the 12 Lub or tubes, invented by Ling-lun.

From the beginning of the recorded history of China until the present day music has at all times had an important place in the political system of the Chinese. Its influence on the people and the forming of their character, either for good or evil, has never been underestimated. Confucius said, "It gives finish to the character first established by the rules of propriety." Since Confucius time has done nothing to lessen the Chinese belief in the inestimable value of music. At the present day there exists an imperial board of music appointed for the purpose of keeping alive the music of the ancients and of exercising a strict censorship over all compositions.

THE CEMETERIES.

The Japanese burial ground near Cumberland, is enclosed by a neat fence, and kept in as good a condition as possible. Next is that of

the Chinese. Also properly fenced and cleared. Further on, we come to the white cemetery. Here the gates are off their hinges and some panels of the farther fence have been removed to allow a throughfare for teams. The News some time ago wrote of this desecration. It seems that the transgressors, not content with using the City of the Dead for hauling purposes, have been too indifferent to even repair the damage they have done. The difference in the conditions of the white burial ground to that of the Japanese and Chinese is too marked to escape notice. But then the whites are civilized, don't you see! Surely there are some trustees whose sacred duty it is to look after these matters.

Bulk of evidence is overwhelmingly against Chinese immigration. Right they are! but is sufficient thought being given to the greater danger to trades and crafts from Japanese influx?

CHINESE COMMISSION.

The Commissioners sat in the Court House here on the 18th and 19th. The first witness was Mr. F. D. Little, superintendent of the Wellington Collieries. He stated that the Company had not employed Chinese at Wellington; underground, about 20 employed above ground. Employed them at Extension at one time. Were removed as an experiment last December. Result not good financially as expenses were increased. Difference being nearly \$1 in work like pushing, brushing, &c. It was all humbug about one white being equal to two Chinese at such work. Had failed to find this to be the case. Boss miner at Extension installed 90 whites in two weeks, and had to dismiss 60 as they could not do the work and seemed stupid.

Ran No. 2 mine here for 8 years satisfactorily with 150 Chinese, the overman and fireboss being white. Now employ about 900 men here, about one-half Chinese and Japs. Think they are not more dangerous than whites in mine. Reason Chinese were not put out here was could not get whites to take their places. Got 200 Scotch miners. Did not want to say what they were like as was a Scotchman himself, could not see why Chinese should be restricted. Would be wanted in many industries for a long time in this country. Years from now will be time to exclude. In Washington miners and drivers work 10 hours, here 8. No law against working longer hours in coal mines. Pay more for dead work here than other mines.

Mr. Matthews — Manager at Union. Thought Chinese as safe as ordinary white, provided they understood English. Had found them careful and obedient. As miners they cannot do as much as a whiteman, about three-fifths as good. As a citizen he thought, if there were whites enough, the country would be better without them. Enough there to supply demand for some time to come. Thought that

labor was available. Thought they were as good as average white in time of danger. Had an explosion in No. 4 street, only 5 men remained to assist, 4 whites and one Chinese.

Jas. Carthew said—Am a contractor, employ labor at times. I am in favour of restriction rather than a tax as at present.

L. W. Nunns, City Clerk, gave evidence as to amount of taxes paid in city and source of payment. No restriction on Japs and Chinese acquiring property in city limits. He would be in favor exclusion.

James Abrams, S. M., gave evidence as to crime among Japs and Chinese in comparison with whites. Number of convictions since Jan 1st '98 to date, 73 whites, 11 Chinese, 5 Japs, 19 Indians. Thought Chinese concealed crime. Thought there were plenty Chinese and Japs here now.

(Owing to want of space the rest of the evidence is held over till next issue.)

Last Friday, upon the departure of the train to meet the outgoing boat, saw an unusual bustle at the station. Besides the members of the Chinese Commission, Messrs. Clute, Foley, and Munn, Secretary F. J. Deane, and the official stenographer, there were Messrs. Chas. Wilson, J. Cassidy, and J.H. Simpson, legal gentlemen who had been attending the sitting. Then came the disagreeing jury in the late colliery enquiry going to Nanaimo to settle their grievances before the court of assize, Miss McAlpine returning home from a visit here, and several other passengers for pleasure and on business.

1901.4.24.p.7. Chinese escape disease in unsanitary conditions because houses well ventilated

In spite of their insanitary habits the Chinese often escape disease because their houses are well ventilated and the children receive a daily sun bath.

Chinese Method of Measuring.

Many travelers returning from China have commented upon the apparently singular lack of knowledge of the distances across their country or between their towns that exists among the Chinese. If at one town you inquire the distance to the next, you may be told that it is 20 li (one-third of a mile), but upon arriving at the town you will be surprised to find the distance back to the town from which you have just come is 24 li and that the cost of journeying back again is correspondingly greater than the cost to go to it.

The Chinese measure distance not by rule, but by the amount of physical energy required to traverse them. Their wage is based on a unit of energy, the amount that it takes them to carry a given load, one picul one li, on level ground. If the road from A to B is down hill, the distance is regarded as less than the actual linear distance because it is supposed to take less energy to travel in that direction, or, as the Chinese say, "the li are short." It naturally follows that in traveling in the other direction, from B back to A, the road being a gradual ascent, a greater expenditure of energy is necessary. "The li are long," and in order to get a fair compensation for their work the carriers must see that the distance and the charges are correspondingly increased. With this explanation what has often appeared as a vagary of the Chinese becomes simple and reasonable.

1901.10.30.p.1. Chinese ceremony of feeding the death occurred Sunday

Several Chinese gamblers were arrested last week and a lot of paraphernalia seized by the local officers. Their case was adjourned to allow the defendants to obtain legal aid. It is said that Mr Chas. Wilson, Q.C., of Vancouver, has been retained and will arrive today to look after their interests. A warm time is expected in Chink circles.

1902.1.8.p.6. Details on Chinese funeral customs

Strange Funerals.

A Chinese funeral, so the Celestials say, never proceeds straight from the house of mourning to the graveyard. The devil is always on the lookout for funerals and follows them to seize the soul of the dead man, so that in order to outwit the evil one the bearers take the body and start with it in a brisk trot, while the packs of firecrackers and pyrotechnics emitting a dense smoke and vile smell are set off just as the procession starts. Having thus deceived Old Nick as to the direction taken by the bearers they run as fast as they can with the body, then suddenly turn a corner while more fireworks are burned. The devil cannot turn a corner easily, and so, if really in pursuit, he shoots on by, and by means of a good deal of sudden turning and stopping and a lavish expenditure of fireworks the funeral procession generally gets to the grave in safety.

The Chinese have a great variety of oaths, many of them curious in form. One of them is taking a saucer and breaking it while the clerk says, "You shall tell the truth and the whole truth. The saucer is cracked, and if you do not tell the truth your soul shall be cracked like the saucer." This is a binding oath, for the Chinaman believes that his soul can be smashed into fragments. Chinese in this country and England are sometimes sworn by the broken saucer. More effective, however, in the eyes of the Celestials is the joss stick. The joss stick is set alight, and while it burns the Chinese swearer wishes that his soul may be burned like the stick if he gives false evidence. The Chinese swear in many other ways. A solemn oath is made by writing certain sacred characters on a paper and burning it, praying at the same time that he may be burned if he does not speak the truth. Sometimes he swears by burning a piece of straw, but nothing is so forcible in drawing the truth from a Chinaman as getting him to cut off a cock's head. This, like the breaking of the saucer, has a religious foundation. The Chinese believe that if their bodies are mutilated on earth their souls will be similarly mutilated in heaven.

1902.2.19.p.8. Necessary steps should be taken in BC to discourage Oriental immigration and employment

8. That necessary steps should be taken to discourage Oriental immigration and employment.

1902.3.26.p.8. Oriental Immigration Question brought before the House in a set of resolutions proposed by Mr. Helmcken

The Oriental Immigration Question was then brought before the House in a set of resolutions proposed by Mr Helmcken, requesting His Honor, the Lient.-Governor to communicate with the Premier of Canada, asking him to bring before the proposed Conference of Colonial Premiers in the City of London, the question of the admission into Canada of the citizens of the Empires of Japan and China, and to use their influence to cause the Imperial Government to take such steps with the Governments of China and Japan as will enable the question to be governed in such manner as will best accomplish this object. The resolution met with the support of the House. The debate was

POSTMAN AND CHINAMAN

New Carrier Worried When John Signed His Name.

A comedy of errors over a special delivery letter occurred in Chinatown the other morning all because the carrier of the letter was not familiar with the ways of the Chinese and the Chinaman to whom the letter was addressed had never received such a message before.

The carrier was a new man at the business. After he had delivered a number of the special delivery letters and taken his receipts for them he went to the Chinaman's place of business, which was a laundry.

The carrier found the place locked, but he pounded away on the front door, and finally a sleepy looking Chinaman answered him. After slipping down several bars and unlocking half a dozen locks the Chinaman opened the door.

The unsophisticated carrier handed him the letter and then let loose a terrific yell. The letter carrier's hair stood on end as nine Chinamen in various stages of undress came tumbling into the room. They chattered away excitedly as they passed the letter about and carefully examined it.

Finally the bewildered carrier said to the Chinaman to whom the letter had been addressed:

"Sign this book and hurry up."

More chattering followed, and finally the owner of the letter comprehended what was wanted of him. He seized one of the brushes he used in making up his laundry accounts and, dipping it into a pot of ink, proceeded to make hieroglyphics all over the page of the special delivery receipt book.

"Here, stop that! That book's no laundry check!" cried the now wildly excited letter carrier as he saw visions of trouble when he returned to the postoffice.

"My unnee," blandly responded John, as he continued to daub up the book. The carrier then insisted on the Chinaman entering the time of the receipt of the letter in the book. This the laundryman could not understand, and after ten minutes' argument on the subject the carrier entered the time himself.

When he got back to the postoffice, he told his troubles to friends and said: "I suppose I will be sacked for violating the rules and letting that Chinaman make a puzzle out of the book. If I am not, I never want to deliver another special to a Chinaman."

He was assured that it was always customary for the Chinamen to sign as this one had done and that no trouble would come to him.

1902.9.24.p.10. Liberal-Conservative police over the Orient Question: Canada for the Canadians
- stop Oriental immigration

next Dominion elections. There will be no shilly-shallying by the Liberal-Conservatives over the Oriental question. Their policy is "Canada for the Canadians" and the result of their policy in this respect will be the total stoppage of Oriental immigration into the Dominion.

A NEW PARTY.

A new political party is now in the field, styling itself the "Provincial Progressive Party." The new party held a public meeting in Victoria, at which a large number of Socialists were present, who severely criticised the Progressive Party's platform. An attempt was made to stop the discussion, which caused the Socialists to leave the hall in disgust. This was an unfortunate move for the Progressive Labor Party, as it showed that they had only a following of fifteen at the meeting. The platform of the Provincial Progressive Party was then adopted. It consists of eighteen "planks," some of which are very absurd and others of an unworkable nature. The old proverb, "Let the cobbler stick to his last," can be very truly applied to the "Progressive Party's" platform. A representative selected or endorsed by the "Party" would be obliged to place their signed, undated resignation in the hands of the convention which nominated or endorsed him, in order that it may be handed to the Lieut. Governor in Council whenever a majority of the convention should consider such action advisable. The single tax idea—which, has almost entirely disappeared within the last few years—is another of the "Progressive Party's" dream; all taxes on the producer and the products of the producer are to be abolished and placed on land values. Government ownership of railways and means of communication, and the operation of smelters and refiners to treat all kinds of minerals are also "planks." The platform has a plank in favor of female suffrage—sensible wo-

men do not want it. Farms, improvements, implements and stock are not to be taxed, and wild lands to be assessed at the price asked for them. No land or cash subsidies. Ten per cent. of all public lands to be set aside for educational purposes, compulsory arbitration of labor disputes. (At the recent meeting of the Dominion Labor Congress, compulsory arbitration was voted down). Restriction of Oriental immigration is demanded on the lines of legislation already enacted and re-enacted by the Provincial Legislature, and disallowed by the Liberal Government in power at Ottawa, which is supported by many members of the "Progressive Party"; conservation of our forest riches so as to produce a "perennial" revenue! Absolute reservation from sale or lease of a certain part of every known coal area, so that state owner mines may be possible. Free transportation to members of the Legislative Assembly and Supreme and County Court Judges.

DISALLOWANCE.

Mr Chris Foley, a well known Labor leader, is in the field for the representation of Vancouver District in the Dominion Commons. Mr Foley has always been an ardent supporter of Sir Wilfrid Laurier and his Government, but at last his eyes have been opened to the double-dealing of his political leader on the Mongolian question. At a meeting held in Vancouver on the 2nd inst., Mr Foley said the Dominion Government had been false to its pledges on the Mongolian question, and made an emphatic protest against the lassitude of the Government claiming that the alien labor law enacted by them some years ago had never been enforced. It is refreshing to know that there is at least one representative Liberal in the Province who has the courage to denounce Premier Laurier's double-dealing. Senator Templeman is alarmed at the dissatisfaction caused in the Liberal ranks by Sir Wilfrid's oft repeated disallowance of Provincial Acts

dealing with Mongolian immigration, and is endeavoring to throw the blame on the Imperial Government. This won't do, however. The Hon. Joseph Chamberlain long ago informed Sir Wilfrid Laurier that legislation on the lines of the Act in force in Natal was within the powers of our Legislature, and Sir Wilfrid has never said that the Imperial Government has ever asked him to disallow Acts drawn up on such lines.

1903.3.3.p.1. All saw-mills and shingle-mills in Vancouver will get rid of Chinese labor entirely

Vancouver, March 2nd—All the saw-mills and shingle-mills in Vancouver are to do away with the Chinese and Jap labor entirely, that is if they can replace the Orientals with Whites to whom they are willing to pay fully fifty per cent in advance of what is now given

Carried.

The state of the furnaces was then discussed, it being found that new furnaces would have to be procured before long, those in the building being in a very bad condition. It was proposed that the Ladies' Auxiliary be asked to take the matter of funds for this purpose in hand.

Moved Mr Pullen, seconded Mr Mounce, that a committee be appointed to interview the Chinese merchants with a view to getting subscriptions in aid of the institution, it being pointed out that the majority of cases lately were Chinese. Mr J. B. McLean and Dr. Gillespie were chosen for this. It was also resolved to interview the Medical Committee for further assistance. Committee—Dr Gillespie Mr Pullen and Mr McLean.

Board adjourned.

1903.3.31.p.7. Joke about Chinese whose friends who died in Departure Bay

A good story is told in connection with the recent explosion at Departure Bay, Near Nanaimo, B.C. After the news reached Nanaimo a well known Chinaman was seen walking up the street in a depressed state. He was asked if he had any relatives killed in the explosion, and he replied: "Yes; heap bad. Four fellows killed, and one man he owe me \$20. One man he owe me \$20. One man he owe me \$15. One man he owe me \$10. Too bad powder kill all fellows owe me money."

1903.4.14.p.1. Number of Chinese in Union Mines given as 132 paid between \$1.25-1.50
units meanwhile.

Victoria, April 11—Being spoken of re rumour of modification of attitude, he reiterated that he would never recognize W.F.M. He would not close mines voluntarily, this would depend on attitude of men. "My own men and I can settle troubles between ourselves without interference from outsiders or foreigners."

In Local House.—In answer to Hawthornthwaite. Number of Japanese in Union Mines given as 38, Chinese 132, Whites 566. Rate of wages — Chinese and Japs., \$1.25 to \$1.50, this for 1902.

Victoria.—The seven boys, all under 15 years of age, who were accused of causing the wounding of a Chinaman who had his leg amputated as a result of injuries received from being run over by a car, after a scuffle with the boys, have been committed for trial.

cumstances.

Victoria, May 4.—Mr Dunsmuir says he has heard that 196 men are on strike. He does not expect but what a large number of the remaining 200 miners will remain, can supplement them with Chinamen of whom a large number are good miners. He does not think the Chinamen will strike. If all go on strike he will close the mines. He cannot help it and does not care.

How Coolies Get Free Burial.

You see, no Chinaman would set foot on a vessel unless he had every assurance that in case he died he would be put away in a first class coffin and brought into port. If we didn't all contract to do that none of us would carry a cooly, not if we offered them free passage, so we promise to supply a "chop dollar" coffin in case of death and to carry the cooly back to the port from which he sailed, and that costs money.

This business hadn't gone on a month before the cooly saw his chance to beat the company and began to do it. You see, a cooly who is about to die, or wants to pass in his checks, and they can do it just whenever and wherever they want to, steps on a steamer, say for Hongkong, and he only pays about \$2 for a deck passage. Then when he gets good and ready he just stops breathing, and the company has to provide a coffin and pay the freight back home.

Nanaimo, June 22—Reports from Ladysmith indicate that a hitch has arisen in the negotiations towards a settlement. It appears that either Mr Dunsmuir was misunderstood by some of the men at Ladysmith or that he changed his mind after leaving for Victoria. At all events it was found that reports as to the exact situation conflicted, and he was wired by the Union on Satur-

day and replied that he had not, as understood, left question in the hands of Mr Bryden. There is, unfortunately, reason to believe that the whole matter is very much where it was. The press committee says the situation is unchanged and that men are as firm in their demands as when the strike began. Mr Dunsmuir confirms the report that he has entered into a two year agreement with Chinese and Japs at Union. After seeing the work which they can be entrusted to do at Union he is highly pleased with them.

1903.7.14.p.1. Minister of Mines intends to prohibit employment of all Chinese underground, regardless if they can speak English

Telegraphic News.

Nanaimo, July 9.—Some little time ago Mr J. Hawthornthwaite wrote the Minister of Mines respecting employment of Chinese underground. Mr Hawthornthwaite has been informed the Department regards the Act as being intended to keep out all Chinese whether able to speak English or not, and has instructed the Inspector to proceed to Cumberland on that hypothesis. An attempt will therefore be made to get the Mongolians out of the Comox mines by charging the Company with infraction of the law.

1903.7.28.p.1. 2 prosecutions under the Coal Mines Act were brought before court

Two prosecutions under the Coal Mines Amendment, relating to Chinese, were brought on last Thursday, when Mr. F. D. Little was fined \$25 in each case for employing Chinese under ground contrary to the Act. Mr Rogers of Victoria, prosecuting, Mr. Cassidy of the same place defending. The cases have been appealed.

1903.8.4.p.1. Inspector Morgan notes question of Chinese employment underground has been brought before

Nanaimo, August 1st—Inspector Morgan, who has returned from Cumberland, states that the question of the employment of Chinese is now, he has been officially informed, out of his hands. The two cases tried at Cumberland are to be carried to the Privy Council, and meanwhile matters are to remain as heretofore, the Company to continue the employment of Chinese until the validity of the law is decided. This will be a matter of some months. The Inspector states that the inquisition on the victims of the recent disaster will be held on the 12th inst.

1903.8.11.p.3. Montana paper claims Cumberland kills 2 Chinamen each month

We find in a Montana paper the statement that we make a practice of killing at least two Chinamen each month in the year. Sing Lee has been with us for the last five years as pressman and is alive and well today, and all communications on this subject can be addressed to him.

1903.10.27.p.3. Joke about Chinese people being vain

Vain.

"Did you find the Chinese a vain people?"

"Very. To hear a Chinese brag you could almost believe an American was talking."—Detroit Free Press.

1903.12.1.p.1. Cases against Wellington Colliery Co. for employing Chinese underground
adjourned

**The cases against the Well. Col.
Co. for employing Chinese under-
ground, have been adjourned until
to-morrow, when Mr Robt. Cassidy,
for the Coy will be up from Victoria**

1903.12.29.p.4. Court case deciding if it was competent to exclude Chinese in mines

Telegraphic News

Victoria, Dec. 26th—Case before full Court today to decide whether it was competent for Legislature to pass measures to exclude Chinese in mines. McPhillips argued the case for the Government and held that regulation providing that Chinese be excluded was not inserted because they are aliens, but because they are ignorant, negligent, and careless. The decision by Privy Council in "Bryden vs Union Colliery Co." did not apply in this case. He held that this decision bore out simply the question of alienation and naturalization are in the power of the Dominion once they passed from that of the Province. It was undisputed that Province had the right to regulate coal mines and was able to exclude those who constituted a danger on the latter ground and not as aliens. A decision will be given next week.

HOODLUMISM.

If some of the members of our Humane Society would take a walk down the mining camp road at the hours when the Chinamen are returning home after their work, they would see a number of boys who daily way-lay and maltreat these unfortunate men in a manner that seems to give them a kind of amusement not taught by Humane Societies. We know that some people approve of this, simply because these men are not of our race. Will these people ask themselves "Why, and by whom were those men created, and have they not the same right as we have to walk our streets unmolested?" This is a sign of barbarism in our youth—the wanton cruelty of taking a delight in the sufferings of others, whether animal or man, and I regret to say, the scenes of which I speak are of daily occurrence in what we profess to call a civilized town. How does it happen, if there is anything in heredity, that more boys do not inherit pity, for it is a matter of general observation, that girls are more pitiful than boys. There are no statistics on the subject, but I have an impression that some boys are natural barbarians. Has every human male to go through the educational process of getting rid of cruel instincts? Truly

pity is a plant of slow growth in the world, and watered by tears, and often by blood. In cities like Victoria, Vancouver and Nanaimo the S.P.C.A., have taken prompt and effectual means to prevent and punish severely every case brought to their notice. Let us trust that it will be the same in Cumberland. There are great forces at work all over the Continent to make the nation honourably conspicuous: in education, intelligent; in charity, pitiful; in art, refined; in manners, self-respecting; but there are other forces, reckless, disorganizing, full of conceit and brag and bluster, an insensibility to human woe, that has not been softened by christianity, and almost as callous to suffering as the brutal and tyrant Nero.

The Laurier Government is on record on the question of employing Mongolian labor on railways subsidized from the taxes of the people of Canada. In committee on the Grand Trunk Pacific Bill. Mr Bennett who accompanied Mr Borden to British Columbia in 1902, and saw what conditions were in this Province, moved an amendment debarring Chinese from labor on the Western section of the railway. Mr Bennett was supported by Mr McPherson of Vancouver, but Mr McPherson was not supported by the party in whose interests he was elected to parliament. He suggested that the amendment be made to apply to Japanese as well as Chinese. THAT AMENDMENT WAS SUPPORTED BY THE ENTIRE CONSERVATIVE OPPOSITION IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS AND WAS VOTED DOWN BY A SOLID VOTE OF THE LIBERAL PARTY NOW IN CONTROL OF PARLIAMENT. Mr McPherson was the only Liberal who raised his voice in support of the amendment.

Nanaimo, 30th—Claiming that his act was intended to call attention to the "Yellow Peril", Lionel Terry, formerly of Nanaimo, murdered a Chinaman in Wellington, New Zealand, last month. The murdered man, an old Chinaman named Joe Kum Yung, was found with a bullet in the back of his head and later died. Terry gave himself up. He held strong views on the subject of aliens. His opinions on aliens were so strong that he recently issued a pamphlet of protest on the Yellow Peril. He was remarkably vehement. After the murder he sent the following letter to the Governor of New Zealand. Sir:—Having spent several years in various portions of the British Empire inquiring into the subject on alien immigration and convinced of evil consequences arising therefrom I have decided to bring the matter before the public eye in a manner which will compel the attention it demands. I will not under any consideration whatever allow my brother Britons to be jeopardized by alien invaders and to make this decision perfectly I have killed a Chinaman this evening. (Sgd) Lionel Terry.

Terry lived in Nanaimo for a number of years and was Secretary of the South Wellington miners union. He was a man of high education and was respected highly by everyone with whom he came in contact.

They Get In.

Because of the fact that there is only an imaginary line instead of a ~~high-board-fence-between-the~~ United States and Canada there is many a Chinaman smuggled in who couldn't get across the line if he were to get off the boat at Detroit and inquire of a policeman the location of the nearest laundry.

There are, as the scientist has observed, sixteen or forty-seven ways of removing the sealskin covering from the domestic cat, and the intelligent Chinaman has learned forty-eight of them and every few days runs across a new one.

Not every sack of potatoes that comes across the border is exactly what it seems. Down below the innocent tubers may be stowed away a Chinaman in search of a new country to love and to launder. In about one day he looks so innocent that the ordinary observer might think he had been here ever since the year before the flood.

Chinese Girls In Canada.

It is asserted that 20 Chinese girls are held in slavery at Victoria, B. C. It is reported that an Indian girl at Alert Bay, B. C., has been sold to a redskin old enough to be her father for 1,000 blankets.

"How's Your Stomach"

is the way people in China say "Good Morning." The greeting of almost every nation is an inquiry after health. The Chinese have the root of the matter. A strong stomach is the foundation. Look after this organ and the general health cares for itself. Man is so constituted it cannot be otherwise. It is the mission of

BEECHAM'S PILLS

to keep the stomach well, the liver active and the bowels regular. They dispel sickness and create health. Dyspepsia, Indigestion, Billousness or Constipation cannot exist when Beecham's Pills are used according to directions. For over 50 years they have cured disordered stomachs, and are now a world-famous remedy. They merit your confidence.

**Sold Everywhere in Canada and U. S.
America. In boxes 25 cents.**

A Country Trip.

Last week Messrs. P. Phillips, Harrison, accompanied by the editor of this paper, took a "Cultus Coolie" through Comox valley, or at least a part of it. The beautiful rains of the previous few days, including that day, had put a growing appearance on the fields, presenting a picture that would gladden the heart of the most pessimistic. Everywhere was seen signs of prosperity. Many of the farmers spoken to intend to make extensive improvements during the coming summer and fall, and not a few new buildings are in the course of erection, some nearing completion.

**Speech From Throne
Opens Parliament.**

Dealt With Immigration, Imperial Conference, Modus Vivendi, Railway Construction, Oriental Question and other Matters.

Ottawa, Nov. 28—The winter session of the Dominion House of Commons was opened this afternoon by the speech from throne read by His Excellency, Governor General Grey.

The speech refers to the expansion of trade, increase in revenue, the volume of immigration and the temperal check due to the financial stringency, the Imperial conference, the French treaty, the Oriental question, the Quebec bridge disaster, the postal revenue and the budget.

Forthcoming Bills.

Hon. Gentlemen of the Senate
Among the measures to be submitted to you is a bill for the extension of the boundaries of Manitoba and of other provinces, for the issuing of annuities for old age, a bill respecting insurance, and bills to amend the election act, and the Dominion lands act,

The Speech say that the time has arrived when public interest requires that the telegraph and telephone companies holding federal charters should be placed under government control. A bill will be introduced for that pur-

Zounds.

The other night some boys just for fun, filled a bottle with some sort of explosive, and while a party of Celestials were enjoying themselves around an opium spread at the only China house in Courtenay placed it under the building which raised some two feet from the ground, and shortly afterwards there followed a thunder sound. The building creaked and groaned as though the Great China Wall had fallen upon it. Ah Sing, Blue Wing and Joe King jumped out of the window, followed by the whole yellow crowd. They thought it was the mighty voice of Teen calling to judgment which they had heard. One of the number proved to be a Taoist priest who commenced to chant prayers from his mystic ritual to appease the wrath that was pursuing them.

The others joined in the exorcising process with gongs drums and flutes. The boys peering through the brush lined fence were mute but interested witnesses of the mystic ceremonies.

After the din had continued half an hour, Teen appeared to be pacified, and the mystic worshippers entered the building but in the regular way; the lights were extinguished and quiet prevailed.

The above items were copied from the first issue of the NEWS when published at Courtenay, some seventeen years ago.

J. J. Grant, proprietor of the Riverside Hotel has taken full charge of that establishment, and will maintain its well earned reputation.

Good times are coming with the advent of the Canada Western and it will include the Bay, Courtenay and the whole of Comox District.

Support your Local Paper.

Trouble occurred the other day, between some whites and Chinese, with the result that a white man was knocked out with a blow from a bottle. Fortunately events of this nature are very rare in Cumberland.

1908.9.25.p.1. Union delays votes owing to objections being raised to Chinese being allowed to vote on the question

The vote of all the Company's employees that was to have taken place on Wednesday, did not come off, owing to objections being raised by the Union to the Chinese being allowed to vote on the question. The Union held a meeting in Cumberland Hall on Wednesday forenoon of members only, to discuss the matter. We have heard that at the meeting it was decided to refer the matter to the heads of the organization and await their decision. At a previous meeting of all the employees it was decided that all employees could vote. Ladysmith employees who were expected to vote on the matter have refused.

1908.9.25.p.1. "Boots" Hopkins committed for trial at next assizes due to complicity in recent Chinese assault

Magistrate Abrams on Monday, committed "Boots" Hopkins for trial at the next assizes to be held at Nanaimo, for confessed complicity in the recent Chinese assault and robbery case, and Pat Tarney for breaking gaol. Chief Constable Stephenson, of Nanaimo, who came up this week by auto, took them down on his return Tuesday.

1912.9.18.p.3. Chinese are great savers

Chlnamen are Great Savers

The Chinese never waste anything. A shopman puts up parcels with half the paper and string used by Europeans. Servants collect and sell match boxes and things which seem to us to be useless. In the country you will see a boy in a tree beating down a single leaf with a stick for fuel. Women, when too old for any work collect dry grass for the same purpose. A man collects his fowl and then beats old damp mats or matting. Cockroaches and other vermin jump out, and the fowls have a meal that costs nothing. You give a coolie an old coat that you are ashamed to wear and he will probably get a tailor to transform it for 30 or 50 cents into two pairs of excellent trousers for himself.—Detroit Free Press.

We quote the following editorial comment from The Labor Advocate of August 8:

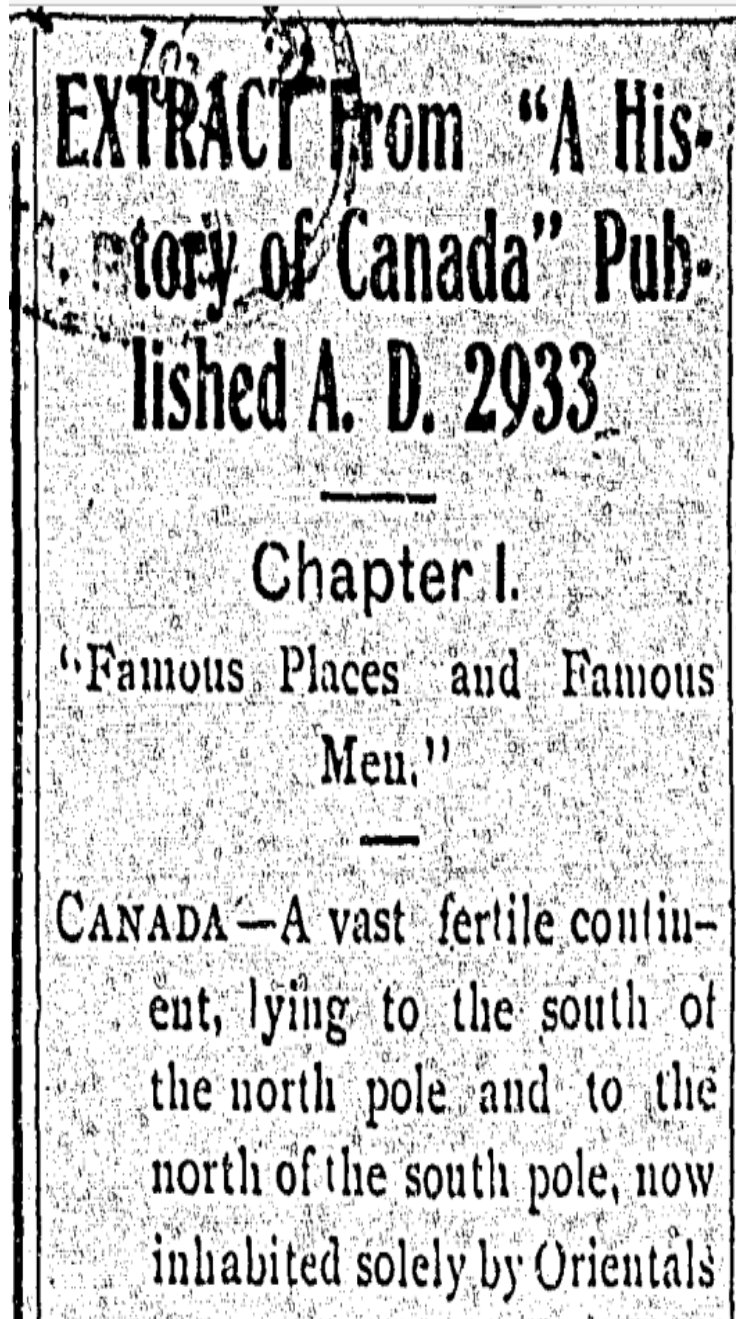
"Tired of the monotony of hearing the Cumberland Islander and the U. M. W. of A. giving each other the lie, the editor of the Labor Advocate paid a visit to Cumberland last week in order to investigate for himself. He was well received by the employers, employees and strikers. The Company afforded him every facility to visit the mines, talk with the men and see for himself. He missed the explosion at No. 7 by just five minutes.

The Cumberland mines are working in almost full swing. Previous to the strike or so called holiday 1,500 men were employed. At the present time about 1,400 men are employed. Previous to the strike the output per day was 2,000 tons. At the present time the output is 1,925 tons per day; 2,060 tons was the record for one day during the editor's visit. A large number of Orientals have always been employed at the Cumberland mines. The yellow and brown men are certainly holding their own, men have been largely replaced by while the English

speaking white, Italians, Austrians, Hungarians, Montenegrins, etc. This condition of affairs cannot be regarded as satisfactory in a British Island, especially to those who desire to see the English speaking people predominate. The Islander's contention that conditions are "normal" is hardly borne out, while the U. M. W. of A.'s contentions that the Cumberland mines are operated by a few Asiatics, is an absurd fabrication. The men without a single exception, spoke very highly of the Company's officials.

At No. 7 mine, which is now called Bevan, there is quite a little town. The Company own 100 neat four room cottages with pantry, surrounded by a large lot sufficient to grow vegetables for a family for a season. Some of the dwellers had good vegetable and flower gardens. These cottages are rented for \$8.50 per month.

1914.2.25.p.1. Chapter from "A History of Canada" mentions Canada is a fertile continent inhabited solely by Orientals



Fraser Mills, Aug. 9.—Two hundred men were laid off at the big mills on Saturday night and a general reduction in wages of 10 per cent, has become effective among all men receiving two dollars per day or over. In the office staff a reduction in wages of 20 per cent has been made. It is stated that next week a still greater reduction among the two thousand men employed will be made. All wages of Orientals have been reduced 25 cents a day all around.

Public Meeting

The public meeting held in the Cumberland Hall, on the evening of Thursday last, for the purpose of discussing the interests of Cumberland, was fairly well attended. Mr. F. Lighter was voted to the chair. There was no regular programme of speakers, but any present who felt so inclined, were invited to have their say. Several present took advantage of this invitation to air their grievances on the Oriental Question, as it affects Cumberland. Mr. Ed. Searle, one of the speakers, was strong on the fuel oil question, as the most important at the present time. Mr. P. Danno and Mr. T. Bickle, had a mild passage at arms over the Chinese, as did also Mr. John Thomson and Mr. Robert Walker, over an uncomplimentary remark passed by Walker. Roy Hood took exception to certain remarks leveled at him by the chairman, and told him so in plain language. The chairman undertook to lecture Mr. Hood for declining to address the meeting. A committee was appointed to draw up a resolution re the employing of Orientals in the mines, and have same circulated for signatures, and submitted to a public meeting to be called later.

We are of the opinion, that at those public meetings to discuss the interests of Cumberland, there is as much of a desire to hit at certain officials of the Canadian Collieries, as there is to debate the questions at issue on their merits. These officials have not the power to settle the Oriental Question, as we would like to see it settled. They are only officials, and must act upon instructions from higher-ups.