

The Daily Times

Published every day (except Sunday) by the TIMES PRINTING & PUBLISHING CO., LIMITED. JOHN NELSON, Managing Director.

Offices: 20 Broad Street. Telephone: 1000. Reportorial Rooms: 45 Business Office: 1000

Daily, one month, by carrier: .75 Daily, one week, by carrier: .25

Copy for change of advertisements must be handed in at the office not later than 9 o'clock a. m.; if received later than that hour will be changed the following day.

All communications intended for publication should be addressed "Editor the Times," Victoria, B. C.

The DAILY TIMES is on sale at the following places in Victoria: Emery's Cigar Stand, 22 Government St.

Seattle-Lowman & Hanford, 618 First Ave. (opposite Pioneer Square). Vancouver—Holloway & Co.

THE MOST FAVORED PORTS.

Discussing a proposal to impose compulsory pilotage dues upon vessels entering Puget Sound ports, the Seattle Post-Intelligencer says: "The ports of the Pacific coast are to engage in a pretty severe struggle for the control of the Oriental trade."

A BLIND ARISTOCRACY.

Officialdom in Russia will presently be discharging its functions in armored fastnesses. It has sown the wind, and has reaped what is probably only the first swirl of the whirlwind.

Russian Empire; the masses will retaliate upon their enemies by assassination until a leader is raised up on their behalf capable of guiding them to the goal to which in their blundering ignorance they aspire.

THE PRESS AND ITS CRITICS.

It is natural that a certain class of public men should display resentment towards newspapers. Publicity is the foe of subterranean methods of conducting the affairs of the people—the only sure guarantee against jobbery.

Be it noted that the objections are not levelled at the real joints in the newspaper harness. It is not vulgarity, or pruriosity, or intolerable meddling in private affairs, or unsettling sensationalism, or irresponsibility, or reckless inventions, against which these official censors protest.

Now, we have often had occasion, by precept and (we hope) by example, to take up our parable against the demoralized and demoralizing press; but in this matter of keeping vigilant watch over the elected servants of the people, and of offering a free vote to popular feeling and demand, we think the run of our newspapers perform a true service.

Most editors, we presume, have left off talking oracularly, with Mr. Pott of the Estanswill Gazette, of "the enormous power of the press." It is no longer necessary to assume that its favor is life or its frown deadly.

Recent events in other lands as well as here have put beyond reasonable dispute the value of the press as an agent of publicity. In New York, we have seen newspaper discussion force the city government to execute a complete right-about.

Silverware 20 PER CENT. DISCOUNT One Week Only C. E. REDFERN ESTABLISHED 1862. 43 GOVERNMENT STREET. TELEPHONE 118.

Manitoba Creamery Butter 25c Monarch Brand Tea 30c B. C. Sugar, 20 lbs. \$1.30 Ogilvie's H. Flour \$1.65 Snow Flake Flour \$1.40

Hardress Clarke 86 DOUGLAS STREET.

in muzzling the press. Napoleon III did not make greater or more tall-tale haste in suppressing Charivari after his coup d'etat. It is a French writer and publicist, M. Bonal, who has put the truth in concise form: "Grant that a state may be disturbed by what newspapers say, yet it perishes if they are allowed to say nothing."

THE TRAMWAY'S SIDE. To the Editor:—There is a comic character in the Christmas pantomimes, who, when pursued and hard pressed, dodges round a corner, grabs hold of an innocent passerby, and, as the pursuers come up to him, dashes over to them 'emuzzled and speechless citizen, shouting: "Here you are, I caught him," and makes good his own escape.

The mind of the average Japanese is full of discernment. But evidently the receptive and subtle intellect of the New Oriental sometimes makes mistakes. On this continent we have been educated up to the point of admitting that the American locomotive is superior in economy and in hauling power to any of its snorting brethren from Great Britain, France or Germany.

That is perhaps all the answer necessary to Mr. Lubbe's letter, for I doubt whether the public cares to go into the question of the profits made by our company on Mr. Lubbe's water. There is nothing so easy as juggling with figures, and when the printer's devil comes to Mr. Lubbe's assistance by dropping out of his letter, accidentally, of course, the basis rate of 12c per K. W. hour pair in Seattle for the first 60 hours' consumption monthly on every lamp installed, and quotes instead a straight 3c rate, it is pretty hard for an ordinary mortal to get the truth believed. I must say, however, that I really admire Mr. Lubbe for choosing Seattle of all places as the one with which to compare our lighting rates.

It is announced that the Holy Synod of Russia has addressed a circular to the orthodox adjuring the people to render obedience to the Emperor and the authorities. Naturally, considering the relationship between the orthodox church and the ruling powers. And just as naturally in the course of time the church will be gravely concerned about the indifference of the masses to the ministrations of the anointed orthodox priesthood.

That is perhaps all the answer necessary to Mr. Lubbe's letter, for I doubt whether the public cares to go into the question of the profits made by our company on Mr. Lubbe's water. There is nothing so easy as juggling with figures, and when the printer's devil comes to Mr. Lubbe's assistance by dropping out of his letter, accidentally, of course, the basis rate of 12c per K. W. hour pair in Seattle for the first 60 hours' consumption monthly on every lamp installed, and quotes instead a straight 3c rate, it is pretty hard for an ordinary mortal to get the truth believed.

IF THERE IS NO INTERFERENCE. Detroit News. If the Lord helps neither the Jap nor the bear, our opinion is that He will see one of the god darndest fights ever put up next spring.

SCARCITY OF CHILDISH CHILDREN. Modern Society. Many people are beginning to regret the fact that a really childish child is becoming something of a rarity. There always have been, and no doubt will continue to be, those children of abnormal mental development known as prodigies. But they have been before the public in astonishing numbers during the past twelvemonth, particularly as musicians, and perhaps by every reason of being overdone, the craze of prodigies will die a natural death.

Contractors' Supplies — AND — General Hardware THE HICKMAN TYE HARDWARE CO., LD. 32 and 34 Yates Street, Victoria, B. C. P. O. DRAWER 613. TELEPHONE 58.

"Masquerader" The Most Popular Novel of the Season, For Sale at HIBBEN'S For 75 Cents

DAVID SPENCER LIMITED

The list of February Sales is growing. Whitewear Sale, House-Furnishing Sale, Stock-Righting Sale are now the attractions at the Big Store

Corset Covers Four extra values, 25c., 40c., 60c. and 90c.; regular 35c. to \$1.50. Tables at \$3.90 We place on sale Wednesday 35 Oak and Mahogany Tea Tables; special, \$3.90 each. 400 yards White Curtain Muslin 54 inches wide, with frill; Wednesday, 15c. yard. Roman Stripe Curtain Material Our special price, 50c. yard; 50 inches wide. Brisk Curtain Selling Nottingham Curtains from 25c. to \$5.75 pair. Applique Curtains, \$4.75, \$5.50 and \$7.65. Brussels Net Curtains, \$2.25, \$2.75 and \$3.75. A few Battenberg Curtains left, at half. 6 pairs were \$15.00 and \$7.50; 5 pairs were \$12.50 and \$6.25. 19c for Oilcloths Value, 25c. 37 1-2c for Linoleums Value, 50c. 50c for Linoleums Value, 75c.

destruction for one company or amalgamation. Who but the public will pay the cost of war when the fight is over? Mr. Lubbe might have compared our rates with those of a large majority of Canadian cities, with Portland, Spokane, San Francisco, and would have come to the conclusion that we are cheaper than most of them. But that would not have gratified his sense of humor.

which we were rapidly approaching. Knowing all these facts and wishing to retain us as a large customer for water which when used by us remains absolutely unpolluted and fit for drinking, the council requested Mr. Goward and myself to meet them to discuss the terms of an eventual contract in the event of the city acquiring the Goldstream waters in one way or another.

As I said before, Mr. Lubbe's letter, and his whole attitude of benevolence to the city of Victoria, is simply a joke, perhaps somewhat clumsy, but still one that will be appreciated by those who have had business dealings with the Esquimalt Waterworks Company and its general manager. The only regrettable feature about the incident is the fact of the press taking the joke seriously. That awful "secret" contract, how it shapes itself into a deadly club over our sinful heads in the hands of the papers, wherever the word "contract" appears it must be preceded by "secret" in capital letters, to be spoken in an awed whisper.

If any proof were needed hereof, the contract itself will give it. It reduces slightly the price of water to our company, but only on the quantity which it is optional for us to take or leave. On all other points the contract modifies the terms of our present contract in the city's favor. I do not ask anyone to take my word for this. He who reads can judge for himself. The monopoly established, of which Mr. Lubbe dares only speak with bated breath, consists in reducing our sole right to the water for power purposes from 33 years to 25 years.

The city council of last year wished to improve the city's water supply. They cast their eyes on Goldstream. They took legal advice, and were told that they might expropriate the works of the Esquimalt Waterworks Company or take water from Goldstream for their own waterworks. They knew that we were using the waters of Goldstream to develop electric power, having the exclusive right to such water for power purposes, under contract with the owners thereof, the Esquimalt Waterworks Company, for a term of 33 years. They also know that we consider the price charged us for water by the water company too high, being equivalent to \$40 per horse power per year for the mere water used, to which would be added interest and depreciation on the electrical installation and the cost of operation, making it practically impossible to sell power wholesale to manufacturers, and restricting our operations to a retail lighting business.

However, to discuss further this travesty on an injured public spirit will weary the public as it wearies me. I shall only add one word to the press. In editorials on the subject the daily papers broadly hint at the advisability of the city's starting in competition with our company in order to bring us to a proper state of humility. The device is not new. Encourage in all possible ways the introduction of British capital into the country, then when you have got it placed where it cannot easily get out, hammer it. No matter whether the company acts decently to the public and to its employees, no matter whether its moderate medium of success is of financial assistance in England to the credit of the whole province, just hammer it. Call it a monopoly, even if it holds no other rights than those anyone else can acquire who has the money and the pluck to pick it, and having wrongly christened it a monopoly, hold it up to public scorn for what it is not. In Ontario so disastrous was the result of municipalities installing private companies, that the legislature was impelled to put a stop to such practices by passing an act on the lines of English law, making it compulsory for municipalities who desire to trade in light, water and similar commodities to buy out the existing companies, first at a fair price, before going in for trading on their own account. I am sorry to have taken up so much

TRY Mainland AND British Lion CIGARS For Sale Everywhere. Every Cigar Branded. Don't take anything "just as good." Avoid everything "better." The Mainland and British Lion Cigars cost from \$5.00 to \$15.00 per thousand more than any other Ten Cent Cigar on the market. Now are you "on"?

of your space, but the misrepresentations of our company's actions and intentions have been so numerous that if replied to at all considerable space must be taken. For the benefit of those who never read more than the last half dozen lines of a lengthy communication, just this:— If the present city council think the last council made a mistake by entering into the tentative contract, which is an agreement made at the solicitation of the city binding upon our company, but not upon the city until approved by the ratepayers, and which was passed unanimously by the council, we are quite agreeable to being released therefrom, and on behalf of our company I shall give the city an opportunity of so doing, and leaving us a free hand. The right to be exercised within 30 days. We do not want to force ourselves upon the city of Victoria if it prefers to paddle its own canoe.

Yours respectfully, J. BUNTZEN. General Manager, B. C. Electric Railway Co., Ltd. Vancouver, B. C., Feb. 6th, 1905.

Actress Dorothy B. Russell Eckstein failed to appear in court in Chicago on Monday against her husband, whom she recently had arrested on a charge of making threats to kill her. On request of an attorney representing Mrs. Eckstein, the case was dismissed. The plaintiff is the daughter of Lillian Russell. Burnley, it is stated, has a larger proportion of one-roomed tenements than any other town in England.

Armour's Star Ham
17½ CENTS
Finest American Cure Ham
16 CENTS
Mowat's Grocery, 77 Yates St.
Free Silverware With Every Sale

THE BUSINESS MEN PLAYED HARD GAME

THE Y.M.C.A. DEFEATED TEAM FROM F.Y.M.A.

The Fernwood Representation Was Out-Classed—Victors Showed Good Form—Sporting Notes.

At the annex hall last evening an exhibition basketball match was played between the Y. M. C. A. and F. Y. M. A. business men's team. It resulted in a win for the former by a score of 17 to 6 points, their opponents being wholly out-classed.

BILLIARDS. ORGANIZING TOURNAMENT.

HANDBALL. A SINGLE TOURNAMENT.

THE RING. O'BRIEN V. CLARKE.

ATHLETICS. MEMBERS' ATTENTION!

ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL. THE ISLAND LEAGUE.

FAIRALL BROS. WON.

RUGBY FOOTBALL. GAME DECLARED OFF.

Occidental Hotel
Cor. Johnson and Wharf Sts.

Is the only Straight \$1.00 A Day Hotel in Victoria.

Special rates by the week. Free 'bus meets all trains and boats. Free hot and cold water baths. Table service unsurpassed in the city.

match announced for Saturday between Victoria and Vancouver will have to be postponed.

Another tournament is being organized in connection with the Billiard Hotel.

Some interesting singles are expected to be played at the James Bay Athletic Association within a few days.

Tomorrow evening a 15-round contest will take place between Kid O'Brien, of California, and Bert Clarke, of Denver, Colo., at the Edison theatre.

The Island League promises to be more interesting than was at first anticipated.

Played. Won. Lost. Dn. Pts.

Premier McBride as Usual Agreed With Request Made by W. Blakemore.

Wm. Blakemore left last evening for Nelson. As mentioned in yesterday's Times his visit to Victoria was for the purpose of laying before the provincial government the joint request of the Silver-Land Miners' Association and the Nelson Board of Trade for the appointment of a commission to go into the subject of the 2 per cent. mineral tax.

Resolved, That the provincial government be requested to appoint a commission consisting of one mining representative from each district with the government assessor, to investigate the working of the two per cent. tax, with full powers to examine all mine and smelter books and returns in order to arrive at an equitable mode of taxing the mining industry.

Resolved, That the Nelson branch of the Provincial Mining Association is of the opinion that the taxing of mines in operation should be solely upon the profits earned, that, in an endeavor to avoid the objections raised to a tax on net profit, on account of the supposed difficulty of determining whether the profits were correctly reported or not, it is recommended that the deduction of the mine payrolls from the net smelter or mill returns be considered in determining the amount to be accounted, this being in a measure a compromise or expediency; that the greater number of those operating mines, the employees of the ma-

Give the Children 'FRUIT-A-TIVES'

FRUIT-A-TIVES
The fruit juices are so combined by our secret process, that the medicinal action is intensified many degrees.

COAL

J. Kingham & Co.
34 BROAD ST. PHONE 647.

JUST OPENED MEAT MARKET
52 Fort Street.

WOMEN DUEL.
Fierce Struggle in Paris Street With Hatpins as Weapons.

No Medicine Cures so Many Sick, Overstrained, Despondent, Weak People as Dr. Hamilton's Pills

DISCOURAGED WOMEN FOUND NEW HOPE.

STRENGTH AND SPIRITS IMPROVED.

NOTICE

A. J. MALLET,
Plumber and Steam Fitter

DUTCH BULBS
Splendid Quality. Just Imported.

JOHNSTON'S SEED STORE
CITY MARKET.

SURVEYING AND CIVIL ENGINEERING

Silver Band Mining Co., Ltd.

Painless Dentistry

Patents and Trade Marks

For All Cord Wood

McGarter & Drysdale
Contractors and Builders.

Don't Ride on the Water Wagon

THE REGULAR SLEIGH OF THE WHITE PASS AND YUKON ROUTE

OCEAN STEAMSHIP CO., LTD.
China Mutual Steam Navigation Co

THE GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY
"The Sign of the Best."

RESTATE WM. HENRY MARSHALL, DECEASED.

TENDERS WANTED

ROWLAND BRITAIN

HEATERS

When Buying Clothes

Salts Serges

Studio Portraiture.

Table with 4 columns: Direction, Class, Rate, Destination. Includes routes like Victoria to Nanaimo and Victoria to Crofton.

THE REGULAR SLEIGH OF THE WHITE PASS AND YUKON ROUTE

OCEAN STEAMSHIP CO., LTD.

THE GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY

RESTATE WM. HENRY MARSHALL, DECEASED.

TENDERS WANTED

ROWLAND BRITAIN

HEATERS

When Buying Clothes

Salts Serges

ESQUIMALT AND NANAIMO RY.

OCEAN STEAMSHIP CO., LTD.

THE GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY

RESTATE WM. HENRY MARSHALL, DECEASED.

TENDERS WANTED

ROWLAND BRITAIN

HEATERS

When Buying Clothes

Salts Serges

Studio Portraiture.



