THE NEWS IN A NUTSHELL.

THE VERY LATEST FROM ALL THE WORLD OVER.

Interesting Items About Our Own Country, Great Britain, the United States, and All Parts of the Globe, Condensed and Assorted for Easy Reading.

CANADA

Winnipeg will celebrate jubilee day with a big demonstration.

Mr. J. H. R. Molson, President of the Molsons Bank died at Montreal.

Immigrants from Galicia and Dakota are arriving at Winnipeg in large numbers.

The Medical Society of Winnipeg has pronounced against the proposed Victorian Order of Nurses.

Dr. Blanchard, a prominent Winnipeg physician, was sandbagged by footpads, but not seriously injured. The assailants escaped.

A lot of Paris green was discovered in the cistern of Rev. George Honey's residence at Wellandport, the water of which is used for drinking.

It is thought desirable that the Canadian fund for the relief of the distress in India should now be finally closed, and the lists of the subscribers are now being prepared.

Peterson, Tait & Co., who have been awarded the contract for the fast service, have agreed under their contract to establish a service to St. John without any additional subsidy.

The Governor-General, at the request of a deputation of Toronto citizens which waited upon him, has agreed to submit to her Majesty a memorial praying her to authorize a Canadian military service medal.

The running of electric cars in Kingston on Sunday will likely be taken to the courts. It is said that the Lord's Day Alliance will accept the challenge and see whether such action is legal or not.

According to the report of the Department of Fisheries, the value of the Canadian fisheries for 1896 is computed at $20,199,338, being a decrease of more than half a million dollars as compared with the previous year.

It is evident from a report which has been presented to the Dominion Parliament that the British Government has refused and is likely to persist in a refusal of the application of the United States to reopen the seal question at the present time.

A communication has been received by the Ottawa authorities from the Imperial Government asking that the American fishing cruiser J. Gerring, Jr., which was convicted of fishing within the three-mile limit, and confiscated, be let down as easy as possible.

GREAT BRITAIN.

It is believed to be certain that many, perhaps all, of the political prisoners will be pardoned early in June in commemoration of the Queen's diamond jubilee.

The Duchess of Teck spends more than $5,000 a year in religious and philanthropic works. The sum is just one-fifth the annual amount granted her

Mr. Henry Labouchere has retracted most of the charges he made against members of the Chartered South Africa Company of stock-jobbing in connection with the Transvaal raid. by Parliament.

A Danish missionary, who has arrived in London from the Congo Free State, says the natives are being treated with great cruelty, with full knowledge of the Belgian authorities, and that an appeal for intervention will be made to Germany.

A recently sold copy of a first edition of Keats' poems, 1817 had the autograph, "To W. Wordsworth, with the author's sincerest reverence." But Wordsworth had not even cut the leaves. Of course, he may have bought a copy for himself before, but it is not likely. He was not fond of books, and his little library consisted largely of autograph copies.

UNITED STATES.

The striking garment makers of New York are sanguine that the strike will be short-lived and will end in victory.

Steps looking to the formation of a powerful alliance in opposition to the Bell Telephone Company are to be taken in Chicago this week.

By the use of kites the Weather Bureau at Washington expect to be soon able to forecast the weather with greater accuracy and for a longer period.

Lieut. Peary has obtained a five years' leave of absence from the United States navy in order to organize another expedition in search of the North Pole.

Otto Keppling, aged 18, while racing on his bicycle with a train on the Irondequoit Bay Railroad, near Rochester, on Sunday, was thrown under the train and killed.

The British fruit steamer Ethelred, which arrived at Philadelphia on Sunday, was on two occasions chased by Spanish cruisers, which fired shots across her bows.

The log of the Mayflower, which was entrusted to Mr. Bayard by the London consistorial convention, was formally presented to the commonwealth of Massachusetts on Wednesday.

Henry Marion Howe, of Boston, the son of Julia Ward Howe, who has been appointed professor of metallurgy in Columbia College, is a cousin of F. Marion Crawford, the popular novelist.

Robert J. Powley, under sentence to be electrocuted at Auburn, N.Y., for wife murder, says he is a Canadian and that he intends to call the attenion of the Canadian Government to his case.

At a meeting of about thirty rabbis and laymen in New York on Tuesday night a resolution was drafted favoring the colonization of Palestine by Hebrews, but opposing the scheme of making it a State.

A father and two sons were killed near Duluth, Minn., on Wednesday, by an explosion of dynamite, which they were "thawing out." Their home was wrecked and the mother and a third son probably fatally injured.

Mr. Booth-Tucker, commander of the Salvation Army in the United States, was on Wednesday convicted of maintaining a disorderly house at the big army barracks in New York. He was remanded for sentence, and admitted out on bail.

Mrs. Eliza D. Stewart, who organized the first Woman's Temperance Union in the West, celebrated her eighty-first birthday at Springfield, O., recently. "Mother Stewart," as she is called, organized the first union at Osborn, O., with 100 members, in 1873.

The Right Rev. C.C. McCabe, Bishop of the Methodist Episcopal Church, says that Dr. Depew misrepresents American feeling in describing it as anti-British. The Bishop has written to Lord Salisbury at length, assuring him of the kindly feeling in the United States towards the Mother Country.

The reports of business in the United States furnished by the commercial agencies indicate a slight ,although very slow improvement in the general trade movement. Manufactures usually are quiet, but as yet prices are fairly well maintained. Cotton goods are dull and print cloths are at about the lowest possible price. The extremely unseasonable weather has had a serious effect up to the present time on the dry goods trade.

GENERAL.

Levanger, Norway, has been almost wiped out by fire.

Zanzibar's Sultan has by proclamation abolished the legal status of slavery.

Spain is negotiating a large loan, secured by the Almaden quicksilver mines, to meet her war expenses.

There is a feeling in Paris that a visit from Emperor William during the Exhibition of 1900, owing to the feeling over Alsace-Lorraine, would not be agreeable.

The German Reichstag on Wednesday adopted a credit of thirty million marks for the purpose of rearming the German artillery with improved fieldpieces.

The Dole Government has decided to give to the British Company the concession for the ocean cable. British men-of-war are now surveying the cable route.

Another crisis exists in the German Cabinet, caused by the introduction of a reactionary measure placing all political meetings and associations under police control.

It is stated that the Latin Republics of Central and South America are ripe for revolution, and they would willingly become colonies of Great Britain if it could be arranged.

The natives of Portuguese East Africa are defeating the Portuguese troops, and the Governor of Delagoa has urgently requested the Government at Lisbon to send reinforcements.

It is reported that the historical gem known as the Imperial diamond, which was intended as a Jubilee present for the Queen, has been stolen from the Nizam of Hyderabad.

The big French naval scheme calling for one hundred million francs, in addition to the regular naval expenditure, has been endorsed by the Naval Committee of the Chamber of Deputies.

CONVENTIONS TO COST $6,175,000.

Estimated Expense of This Summer's Gathering of Young Church Workers.

The rapid growth of young people's societies for the advancement of church work and the announcement that four large conventions of such societies are to be held within the next few months have moved a statistician to count the cost of the conventions. According to the Church Economist, this statistician estimates that this summer's conventions of young people will cost $6,000,000.

His estimates are interesting and suggestive. He estimates that 25,000 people outside of the local unions, will attend the Christian Endeavor Convention in San Francisco in July. He divides the expenses of these 25,000 people in this fashion:

5,000 will spend $200 each . .	$1,000,000
5,000 will spend $125 each. . .	625,000
5,000 will spend $100 each .. .	500,000
10,000 will spend $50 each. . .	500,000
25,000	$2,625,000
Add local expenses of the convention and expenses of delegates from San Francisco and Oakland.	250,000
Total cost of San Francisco '97 convention.	$2,875,000

The Baptist Young People will gather at Chatanooga in July to the number of 20,000, it. is estimated. The cost of this convention will be as follows:

5,000 will spend $100 each. . .	$500,000
5,000 will spend $75 each. . .	375,000
5,000 will spend $50 each. . .	250,000
5,000 will spend $30 each. . .	150,000
20,000	$1,275,000
Add local expenses of the convention and of local delegates	125,000
Total.	$1,400,000

During the same month the Methodist Young People will meet in Toronto, and it is expected that 30,000 Epworth Leaguers will be present. The distance that many delegates will have to travel is great, and the statistician says that the cost of this convention will be as follows:

5,000 will spend $100 each. . .	$500,000
10,000 will spend $50 each. . .	500,000
10,000 will spend $40 each. . .	400,000
5,000 will spend $25 each. . .	125,000
30,000	$1,525,000
Add local expenses and expenditures of delegates from Buffalo, Hamilton and Toronto.	175,000
Total.	$1,700,000

He adds $200,000 more for the expenses of the convention of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew in Buffalo, and here is his total:

Outlay for Christian Endeavor Convention at San Francisco	$2,875,000
Outlay for Baptist Young People's Convention at Chattanooga.	1,400,000
Outlay for Epworth League Convention at Toronto.....	1,700,000
Outlay for Brotherhood of St. Andrew Convention at Buffalo.	200,000
Total..	$6,175,000

According to these figures the four conventions will cost nearly as much as all denominations of Protestants in the United States raise and distribute each year for foreign missions.

HOPE FOR CONSUMPTIVES.

THE CURE NOT IN KOCH'S LYMPH OR OTHER SPECIFIC, THOUGH.

Consumption a Complex Disease, to Be Treated by Complex Methods—The Present Aim of Physicians to Increase the Vital Resistance—Success Shows in the Lower Death Rate.

There is hope for the consumptive. The thing to do nowadays is not to let one's self succumb to the tubercle bacilli, but to put them to rout. This takes a great deal of vital resistance; but the fact that the death rate from consumption is being lowered every year proves that the bacilli are not invincible. There was a time when a person, old or young, who realized that consumption had laid hold of him gave up at once. If the victim had an inherited tendency to the disease he thought it was necessarily fatal to him because it had killed his grandfather and his great-grandfather. People aren't so resigned nowadays, and as a result a great many consumptives are cured every year.

After all the talk about this lymph, that specific and the other advertised sure cure, what new information has been secured about consumption and its cure? When this question was put to Dr. George F. Shrady, of New York, he said:

"The idea that consumption is incurable is absurd. True, no single medicine or combination of medicines yet known to science can be considered a specific; but great progress has been made in applying methods. Consumption is

A COMPLEX DISEASE,

and has to be treated complexly. Almost all persons who have consumption are predisposed to it. It is merely a question of the seed's taking good root in the properly prepared soil. When there is no preparation of the soil by hereditary predisposition or lowered health standard a person may be exposed to consumption day in and day out and feel amply guarded against attack. One's degree of vital resistance is the real element of protection.

"There is no disease that has more transmitting power from one generation to another than phthisis. Cancer does not hold a candle light to it. Much more is known about the disease, since the discovery of the tubercle bacillus, but it is not yet settled whether this is the cause or an associated condition of the disease, and we can't tell which comes first. One thing is quite certain, however, and that is that the soil is prepared for the bacillus when it flourishes. It was originally believed that the microbes were the direct active agents in poisoning the system until it was demonstrated that the agency causing disease was due to the chemical product excreted by the micro-organisms themselves. Koch first thought that his lymph, which represented the toxin of tuberculosis, would destroy the tubercle bacillus in the living body, but he was mistaken. No germicide sufficiently safe and powerful to overcome the poisonous effects in the system has been found. Such a germicide would kill the disease and the patient at the same time.

"Tuberculosis do not affect anybody unless predisposed or in a very low state of health. With pulmonary consumption the dust of the dried expectoration is believed to be the direct medium of infection. When we stop to consider the thousands and tens of thousands who breathe the bacilli everywhere they go—in street cars, theatres, churches, hotels sleeping berths, even in their own homes, it would seem that the disease should be almost universal. It is a satisfaction, however, to know that the chances of infection for a healthy person are so exceedingly small as not to deserve attention. But why do healthy persons, with no inherited tendency, often take the disease from nursing a consumptive? some one will ask. Because the health standard is lowered by

ANXIETY AND CARE,

and the soil is properly prepared for the seed which is being breathed every day. This view also throws some light upon the well-established fact that consumption among the Southern slaves was almost unknown, and while few of the emancipated slaves died of it, the succeeding generations are suffering very much more from tuberculosis in proportion to population than the white people of the same districts. They breathed the same air then as now and it no doubt teemed with just as many bacilli. The reason for this then must be their changed manner of living. They are not so well cared for and consequently have not so great a degree of vital resistance.

"Tuberculous patients are very bright and intelligent as a rule. Great mental activity is associated with the disease, and often a sufferer reminds one of a diamond wearing out its setting. In some families the predisposition extends through five or six generations, and yet even this fact should not make the seventh hopeless. Again in other families the disease develops at the same time and if the predisposed one can hop over that period he may generally consider himself safe. This is the result shown by broad biological laws. Even after the disease is developed in a patient it is absurd to assume that it cannot be cured. Think what climate alone does in effecting cures—the Adirondacks, the Georgia Pines and Colorado, for example. Patients go there or somewhere else, recommended by a physician, and live for years. Some attain old age. This only shows that when one's vital resistance is stimulated to the utmost it is possible to throw off the disease and to withstand another attack. A consumptive has to be fitted to a climate just the same as to medicine or a pill. It depends upon the stage of the disease and the condition of the patient at the time whether he should have a colder or a warmer, or a dryer or a more humid atmosphere, and frequently two consumptives from the same family have to be sent to entirely different climates.

"The death rate has been much lower in the last twenty years as the result of the disease being treated on broad lines. Long ago we had specifics, and considered that it was only a question of emptying the lung and destroying what was in it. The history of the disease, however, is one of elimination or destruction. One of two things happens when a person contracts consumption. The disease must be eliminated or else it kills the patient. The whole effort these days is to get the patient to

THROW OFF THE DISEASE,

and at the same time to raise the vital strength. We strengthen the individual and lessen the load of disease.

"Pulmonary consumption is essentially of such a chronic nature and attended with such radical organic changes that there does not appear to be much chance of altering the predisposed condition of the soil by activity posed condition of the soil by actively strengthening any of the purely resisting tendencies of the blood itself as we do by means of the serum treatment in certain acute diseases. Suppose there is a special soil in the individual for every disease. If the person takes diphtheria, by the use of antitoxin, all the diphtheria soil seems to be used up, and that person never has diphtheria again. There is no soil in which the germs of the disease can take root, and so he is said to be 'immune,' or, in other words, is guaranteed against the poisonous influences of the disease. So it is in smallpox. We are made immune by vaccination. But there are acute diseases, particularly diphtheria, which acts very quickly all along the line and kills quickly. Koch's lymph was expected at first to be to consumption what antitoxin was to diphtheria; but it is claimed that instead of mitigating the disease it appeared to scatter it over the whole body. In diphtheria the knowledge of its cause brings a promised means for its cure. In other words, the vital resistance of the blood itself keeps off phthisis, while in acutely infectious diseases an alteration of the condition of blood gives immunity.

"Patients who have phthisis, are peculiarly susceptible to re-infection, but nobody now need despair who has the disease. In the adaptation of different climates to the cure of this disease and other chronic ailments, a new science of therapeutics has been created. The study of the temperature, range, barometric pressure and rainfall of different localities has been as faithfully carried on and with as careful reference to the need of the invalid as the composition and strength of the various medicines composing his other prescriptions. Consumptives should recollect that here we have all the climates of the world. They should think of our mountains and our wonderful seaboard and also of our different soils.

"Consumption is prevalent, however. The disease faces us everywhere, and patients will die of it, especially among the poor, who are unable to have the necessary change of climate, combined with skilled medicinal treatment, and, therefore, cannot increase their vital resistance, to throw off the bacilli. Death walks in spite of everything; but statistics prove that we are improving. The disease is complex, and the treatment must be complex. The increased number of remedies and the raising of the vital standard of the individual, enabling him to throw off the disease and making him immune, make the outlook for the consumptive very bright."

WHERE IDOLS ARE MADE.

Birmingham, England, Has a Factory for Making Heathen Gods.

It has recently been discovered that there is in Birmingham, in the very center of Christian England, a factory where idols are made for heathen nations, says the Pottery Gazette, London. Many attempts have been made to obtain admission to the factory, but a strict watch is kept upon outsiders anxious to pry into the secret chambers where the heathen gods are made and journalists especially are prevented from entering the works.

A few facts were, however, to be gleaned concerning this extraordinary industry. Idols of all kinds are turned out, representing the gods of all heathen nations from Tokio to Timbuctoo. The export trade to heathen countries is a fairly large one, although more gods are sent out to foreign dealers in curios in the bazaars of Cairo, Damascus, Colombo, etc., for sale to unsuspecting travelers anxious to take home some mementos of their stay abroad.

The price of gods varies greatly. You may get a Birmingham made one in a London curiosity shop, for half a crown or you may run up the pretty bill of £20 for an especially ugly one, "stolen," according to the dealer, "by a sailor during the Chinese war." In the Cairo bazaar, however, the price of a first-class god of this kind may run from £20 to anything. A traveler informed the writer that there was little difficulty in detecting a god of native make from one of Birmingham manufacture. The first generally displayed some slight irregularity or change of design to the native working by hand, while the Birmingham god was as superlatively correct in form as the most immaculate dandy is in dress.

The trade in idols is kept such a close secret that it is difficult to estimate the output for in the board of trade returns the god would doubtless be classed under the humiliating title of "works of art or curios." But there is no doubt the trade is a fairly large one and that some cute Birmingham men do very well in the business.

FOLLOWING PATERNAL ADVICE.

Why on earth did you marry that grass widow? demanded Mr. Ricketts, angrily, of his son.

It was in following your own advice, father.

Following my advice, you idiot! I never advised you to marry her.

No, but you always told me to make hay while the sun shone.

COLONIAL CABLE ROUTE.

GRAVE DANGER TO THE BRITISH EMPIRE AT THE PRESENT TIME.

Necessity for Immediate Action to Bind Britain and Her Colonies Together—Direct Routes are Desirable.

Speaking of the projected trans-Pacific cable scheme, a writer in the Empire, London, says:—

Although Britain is in constant touch with all her colonies, the majority of the latter possess no means of intercommunication by telegraph direct. Our West Indian Islands are not connected direct with Canada; Canada cannot communicate direct with Australia; Australia has no direct cable communication with our growing South African Empire. Costly circuitous routes have to be adopted for colonial intercommunication.

To-day this causes loss and much vexatious delay; it may, later on, constituite a grave danger, seeing that some of the existing cables necessarily land on foreign, and possibly hostile shores. Manifestly, the necessity has arisen for a new set of nerves for the British Empire, and the Pacific cable should form an important link in that chain of all British communication, which must soon become the indispensable complement of our Colonial Empire.

NO TIME TO BE LOST.

There is no time to be lost, for active, ambitious rovals are in the field. Efforts are being made by the Americans to establish a cable between the United States and the far east and Australia. This project has the approval of the American Government, which has already organized expeditions for taking soundings along the cable route.

But perhaps our most formidable rival is the Campagnie Francaise des Cables Telegraphiques, which enjoys the financial support of the French Government, anxious to extend Gallic influence in the Pacific. French statesmen have long regarded with an envious eye that admirable system of universal cable communication which stands forth to-day as a characteristic manifestation of British pluck and enterprise. Mistress of the seas, England has contrived to utilize and monopolize the depths thereof!

HOW IT CAN BE DONE.

Mr. Chamberlin is fully alive to the importance of this question, which would certainly have received more of his personal attention had not the political situation absorbed all his time. Every responsible colonial Minister is in favour of prompt action, and it is to be hoped that the presence of colonial Premiers in London this year may hasten the practical embodiment of the resolutions that were come to at the last conference held in London in June, 1896. Some definite announcement of the plan adopted will then probably be made.

The exploitation of the cable could be effected either through the agency of a subsidized or guaranteed company, or directly by the Governments concerned, as a public work. By adopting the former method, the Governments would merely have to grant liberal subsidies, and the company would undertake all responsibility. But this system has many disadvantages, and it is expected that the other alternative will be adopted. In that case, an Imperial-Colonial Cable Commission could be created to establish and control the working of the cable. The capital could easily be raised at 2 1-2 per cent., the interest thereon being made a first charge on the revenue. It is thought that the financial liability will be divided between the Imperial Government, the Australian colonies and Canada, each contributing a third.

AFFECTS SOUTH AFRICA.

This question closely affects South Africa, where its development is being watched with great interest. The Pacific cable once laid, it could be extended from Australia to the Cape via Keeling Islands, thus connecting South Africa direct with Australia and Canada, and affording the former country a valuable alternative route to England. The general scheme includes other branch cables, by which many important British possessions would be rescued from that dangerous state of isolation in which they now find themselves.

ACETYLENE GAS ON SHIPBOARD.

It Could Also Be Used in the Illumination of Buoys.

Acetylene gas has found a friendly critic in Prof. Vivian B. Lowes, who thinks there is plenty of room for it on board ship. He points out that its value for lighting is fifteen to twenty times greater than coal gas, and that in this compressed state, which is more suitable for ship lighting, a cylinder holding one cubic foot would supply a burner giving a light of 32 candles for 400 hours. While recognizing the dangers of acetylene, he says they can be easily guarded against, and he estimates a great future for the gas on ships. It should have a special place in the illumination of buoys. Where electricity is used for that purpose, the conducting wires are apt to be fouled by an anchor or dredge. Compressed oil gas and compressed coal gas and gasoline enrichment require a small gaswork and compressing plant. Prof. Lowes believes that, although oil lamps are good and economical, ther eis room for acetylene for this purpose, as a cylinder of liquid acetylene of 13-4 cubic feet capacity, with a reducing valve, and stored in bottom of the buoy, would give a clear, white light of 32 candles for one month, and the cost even now when calcium carbide is expensive, would be about equal to compressed oil gas. As to its penetrating effect in fogs, Prof. Lowes found in his tests that the loss of light for coal gas was 11.1 per cent; for oil gas, 11.5 per cent; for acetylene, 14.7 per cent; for incandescent gas (Welsbach), 20.8 per cent, and for the electric arc lamp, 25.2 per cent.