

General News.

Readers are reminded that the Federal elections take place to-day.

Wednesday, 24th April, the day for holding the general elections for the State, has been gazetted a Bank and Public holiday throughout the State.

The Secretary of the local hospital (Mr. J. V. Bryant) desires to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the following amounts:—W. B. Pierce, proceeds of bicycle match, £7 2s. 9d.; T. Williams, Esq., J.P., £1 1s.

The *K.M. News* says:—An unpleasant and significant sight was witnessed in Lawlers this week, when two horse teams arrived, driven by Afghans. As camel drivers the Afghans were bad enough. God knows, but as horse drivers, bah! No remedy seems possible until all dealers of Asiatics are branded as blacklegs. As a matter of fact they are nothing else.

Con. Wright (110yds.) won the St. Patrick's Day Wheel Race (two miles) at Lawlers, with Chris. Wright (20yds.) second. Chris also secured second in the Half-mile and One-mile; in the latter race he was winning easily when his tyre blew out half a lap from home, and would have won on the rim but for his wheel buckling just before reaching the winning post.

The following rules have been recommended by the sub-committee for the approval of the general committee, referring to the scale of charges for admittance to the Mount Magnet Hospital:—Subscribers of 1s. per week, free admittance; non-subscribers, £3 2s. per week and medical charges; subscribers at Paynesville, 9d. per week subscriptions, free admission to hospital. The term "subscriber" means mine employees, artisans or any *bona fide* working man.

Wednesday last was nomination day for the extraordinary election caused by the resignations of Cr. Burke and Auditor J. H. Thomas. Two nominations, Messrs. W. H. Maynard and J. H. Thomas, were received for the position of Councillor, and one, Mr. H. Tolmie for that of auditor. Mr. H. Tolmie was declared duly elected as auditor and the election for Councillor takes place on Wednesday next.

A fatal accident occurred at the Surprise Lease, Paynesville, about 4 o'clock on Wednesday morning. Tim O'Regan was at work in the shaft and his brother John was on the brace. From the meagre information to hand it appears that when the bucket of ore was within a few feet of the surface, the

ore was within a few feet of the surface, the rope, a wire one, parted and the bucket fell on Tim O'Regan causing his death. The shaft in which the accident happened is about 80ft in depth.

The bicycle match for £20 aside, between Chris. Harvey and Arthur Wyatt, was run off on the local recreation ground on Wednesday afternoon. A charge of 6d. admission to the ground was made and the sum of £7 2s. 9d. was received towards the funds of the local hospital. Great interest was taken in the match and a large concourse of people assembled. The half-mile event came off first; Wyatt made the pace rather slow with Harvey on his wheel. When the goal posts were reached near the home turn in the second lap, Harvey moved up alongside Wyatt and the sprint home resulted in the latter winning by a wheel. The one mile pursuit race was rather a soft thing for Wyatt who won easily, thus securing first for two of the three distances and finishing the contest. A Mugs' Race, for a trophy presented by Mr. Burke of Our Boys' Tailoring Co., was won by A. Dawson with A. Dewar second. A couple of boys' races were also run, W. Pierce winning the first with B. Dawson second. The other race was won by E. Dawson, W. Pierce securing second place.

It will be seen by advertisement that the Hospital Committee desire that all debts due by the old committee up to 15th December, 1900, be handed to the Secretary not later than Saturday, April 6. The hospital is now in full working order, and the secretary will be pleased to acknowledge in these columns all subscriptions and donations towards the funds of the institution.

The census will be taken on Sunday, March 31. For the purpose of facilitating this work the State has been divided into 37 districts, these being subdivided into a total number of between five and six hundred. There is an enumerator in charge of each district, and there are sub-enumerators in the sub-districts. A large number of the schedules have been already delivered. The sub-enumerator is responsible for the complete distribution in his district, and has also to see that the schedules as returned to him are properly filled up. It is expected that an approximate idea of the population will be obtainable within a month of the taking of the census. In order to make certain that those people who will be travelling on the railways on census night are scheduled, the guards on the long distance railway trains will be sworn in as sub-enumerators. Schedules will also be placed on board the vessels running along the coast, and due precautions will be taken to ensure the schedules being collected from those vessels

A petition to the Inspector General of Schools has been numerously signed during the week, asking for the appointment of an assistant teacher to the Mt. Magnet State School. When ready the petition will be forwarded to Mr. Illingworth for presentation.

The following telegram was received yesterday at this office from a Coolgardie correspondent:—"Speaking at the Wesleyan Church, Coolgardie, on Sunday evening, the Rev. W. R. Poole, Wesleyan clergyman, reminded all his hearers of their duty at the Federal election on Friday, and exhorted them to vote for Protestant candidates only. It was a noticeable fact that Catholic countries had degenerated, whereas those countries ruled by Protestant statesmen were most progressive and prosperous. In a word, if Australia was to go ahead it was necessary that Catholics should be excluded rigidly from Parliament, and from all positions where they could influence the Government of a country."

Mr. Barton, speaking at Dubbo last Friday night, made a long reference to kanaka labor. He declared that a Bill would be brought in, providing for the gradual extinction of the traffic, and at no time should the number of kanakas be greater than now. Regarding the Federal capital, he said the Government would resume a larger area than 100 square miles, to provide for a model little State. All the Federal land would be leasehold.

In view of the possibility of the shipment of camels which is supposed to be now on the water for Western Australia not having yet left India, the Minister of Lands, acting on the advice of the Crown Law Department, has cabled to the Government Secretary at Kurachie as follows:—"I am informed Faiz Mahomet exporting camels from Kurachi to Western Australia. Please inform him importation of camels into Western Australia strictly prohibited."

Louis De Rougemont appeared at the Tivoli Theatre on Saturday evening last, and related the story of his life and marvellous adventures in Northern Australia. He had a good hearing, the audience treating his hairbreadth escapes as huge jokes. A picture of himself astride on the famous turtle brought down the house. When he explained "if all ze rest be fiction zat is true, and to prove it to you I vill get a turtle and give you an exhibition in ze harbor," the audience laughed more boisterously than ever.—*West Australian.*

W.A. Tattersall's (J. Charles) consultation on the Ballarat Cup, 10,000 at 5, closed with 12,500 subscribers, and was drawn at the Cremorne Theatre, Perth, by the new electrical drawing machine, on Thursday, 21st March, 1901. The following were drawers

of placed horses:—First (Atbara), "Merv," Perth, £937 10s; 2nd, (Battenburg), Flipsy, o/o Con Sullivan, Boulder, £312 19s; 3rd, The Bride, o/o Pell & Co., Kalgoorlie, £157 10s. The Coolgardie Summer Cup, 10,000 at 5, was drawn on March 23rd and closed with 6,943 subscribers and was drawn on a 7000 basis. The undermentioned were drawers of placed horses:—First (Fair Sex), Hunter & Tullock, Kathleen Valley, via Lake Way, £519; 2nd (Aqua), J. Brown, Fremantle, £173; 3rd (The Palmer), Wire Syndicate, Perth, £69.

Messrs Clydesdale and Wallace advertise lists of dates on which they will address the electors at various centres.

The tender of G. Baxter, New Zealand Government Railways, has been accepted for the supply and delivery of 50,000 jarrah sleepers; £9,791 13s. 4d.

The Victorian 3 per cent. loan of £3,000,000 realised one and a quarter premium. Cash applications receive 11½ per cent. of the amount of their applications. The total amount offered has not been announced, but was, it is believed, about £9,000,000.