

Fraternal News

The growth of the Rossland fraternal organizations during the past year has been good, although not up to the record of the lodges of three years ago. Every lodge has doubled almost in point of membership, while others have done still better. The growth of the lodges in this city is explained by the fact that there is so little of interest and so few places of amusement to go to that the citizens have naturally taken to lodges. The societies are doing all in their power to make things as interesting for members as possible. Each lodge gives a dance, a banquet or a smoker at some time during the year. This year the different societies are planning to give entertainments on a scale never before attempted.

THE KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS.—The local branch of the Knights of Pythias held a meeting last Friday night at their hall on Queen street. The meeting was a noteworthy one. A large number of the members of the Trail lodge, headed by Noble Binns, past grand chancellor, were in attendance as visitors. After the regular routine work of the lodge had been disposed of the members adjourned to the banquet room, where a splendid spread was served under the auspices of the Rathbone Sisters. Covers were laid for seventy-five members. Proctor Joimer officiated as chairman at the banquet. During the course of the evening speeches were made on various topics by ex-Mayor John S. Clute, Roscoe R. Leslie, A. G. Creelman and Chancellor Commander J. C. Murphy. Noble Binns, past grand chancellor of the Trail lodge, made a most interesting speech on the order, as did several other members of the Trail lodge.

FOR BURNT BASIN. Provincial Supervisor Expected in Connection with Proposed Road. H. C. Killen, provincial supervisor of roads, trails and bridges, is expected to arrive in this district almost daily, to go into the matters relating to his department for the Rossland district. One of the subjects to be taken up with him arises in connection with the necessity for a wagon road into the Burnt Basin country if that district's growth is to be expedited and several promising mines developed in the comparatively near future. The contact mines are practically the only properties now working in Burnt Basin, but one of the reasons for this is that it is next to impossible to get in supplies under existing conditions and the smaller operators cannot afford to put in a sufficiently large stock of provisions to last through the winter.

Mr. Killen's work is confined exclusively to reporting on applications for grants to build roads, and in this capacity he has done excellent work for the lands and works department. His recommendations carry great weight at Victoria, and to have him on the ground for a meritorious proposition is being advanced is a material assistance to the projectors. The contact mines will install heavy machinery as soon as conditions permit and a wagon road is furnished over which the plant can be transported, and other properties will undoubtedly rejoice in the working list when this advance is made at the principal property.

MASKED ROBBERS. The Postmaster of Echo, Near Colville, Their Victim. COLVILLE, Wash., Feb. 4.—At 11 o'clock Monday night R. E. Watts, merchant and postmaster at Echo, 10 miles north of this city, was held up and robbed by two masked men. They secured booty valued at \$960. Watts had closed his store and was building a big fire in the stove to keep the building warm when a knock at the door attracted his attention. He raised the bar, placed across the inside of the door, when the strangers, evidently customers, walked inside.

One, a tall man, shoved a revolver in Watts' face, stating the business he and thus meant to transact. Watts obeyed the order "hands up." The short man proceeded to rifle the till and then searched Watts, who had money on his person. Few words passed. The strangers said nothing on leaving and left no clew. They being heavily clothed against winter weather, and there being little light in the room, Watts did not see the masks on the men until their faces were made. Most of the money stolen had been deposited for safe keeping.

The fact that one robber was tall and the other short adds interest to the case, at the same comparison was made of the men who robbed David Michel, a farmer in the same neighborhood, about two years ago, and also of the two who robbed the Bossburg railway depot about the same time. No clue was left to identify the robbers in any of these cases.

KILLED AT THE QUILE. The Body of a Miner Found at the Bottom of the Mine. REPUBLIC, Wash., Feb. 4.—Matt Louma, a Russian-Finn miner, who has been working at the Quile since it resumed operation, October 18th of last year, came to a horrible death in that mine on Monday. He had been working on the No. 4 level, 200 feet below the adit, and fell down the winze to the bottom of the mine, 200 feet deeper. The winze in question is perpendicular and is used as the main working shaft of the mine. The accident was discovered by George Ward. He had been sent after Louma, intending to go with him to the No. 5 level and load waste rock. Not finding Louma on the No. 4 level, Ward went back to the adit station and had the engineer lower him to the No. 5 station. But before he got down to the station he discovered blood on the still timbers. Within a few feet of the bottom he rang a signal for the engineer to stop the cage, and, jumping off, he found the lifeless body of Louma.

Charles F. Jackson is confined to his home with a slight illness.

RICH CALUMET AND HECLA. BOSTON, Mass., Feb. 3.—A dividend of \$5 a share was declared by the Calumet and Hecla directors. It is the third payment of that amount for the fiscal year beginning May last.

PARCEL POST DELAYS. LONDON, Feb. 7.—The Anglo-American parcel post is coming in for severe criticism. The Times is printing letters from prominent business men giving details of serious and provoking delays in the delivery of parcels sent from here to New York. From which the moral is drawn that American business men "are not superior to the British, as commonly stated."

THE B. C. GAZETTE.

Proclamations From the Last Issue Received From Victoria.

The following are new proclamations from the last issue of the British Columbia Gazette to hand: The time for the inspection of nursery stock from those countries to which the "San Jose Scale Act" applies, viz., the United States, Japan and Australia, has been extended one month, viz., from October 15th to April 15th, instead of March 15th.

Certificates of incorporation have been issued to the Abbotsford Lumber company, Alpha Brand Potted Meat & Fish company, Balmoral, Limited, Elwood Tin Workers' Gold Mining Company of Lardreau, and the Fernie Manufacturing company. Applications for timber licenses have been made by James Ludgate and Annie Ludgate, both having staked two sections each of timber land on Pingston creek, Upper Arrow Lake. T. E. Enger, H. R. Harriman, T. C. Hartman and R. L. Hartman have applied for coal licenses covering 640 acres each. The land is located near Lumbum lake in the Nicola valley, Okanagan.

The recently elected mayors and aldermen in the municipalities of Rossland, Trail, Delta, Langley, Nelson, Revelstoke and South Vancouver are duly gazetted. The following private bills will be asked for at the next session of the legislature: Victoria City, private charter for Company to construct railway from Fernie to international boundary, to incorporate. Company for the construction of a railway from New Westminster to Ladner, to incorporate. Vernon & Nelson Telephone company, to amend incorporation act. Kootenay, Central Railway company, to amend act of incorporation. British Columbia Northern and Mackenzie Valley Railway company, to incorporate. Company to erect telephone and telegraph lines on mainland of B. C., to incorporate. Company to construct a railway from Adams River to Gold River, Vancouver Island, to incorporate. Victoria and Esquimalt Telephone Company, Limited, to amend incorporation act.

THE KILTIES' BAND. May Play in Rossland if it Comes to British Columbia. The members of No. 1 Company, Rocky Mountain Rangers, are trying to arrange a date here during the spring or early summer for the famous 49th Highlanders' band, which is known while on tour as the "Kilties." A band that is going under the name of this famous Canadian regimental band is even now touring the States and may make a trip into the interior of British Columbia. In case the genuine band does come to this province, it is the intention of Major Barrett and the members of the militia company to try and book them for one night in Rossland.

Some time ago Engle Major Barrett noticed a criticism in an eastern United States paper in regard to the initial appearance in that city of the famous "Kilties," the regimental band belonging to the 49th Highlanders. Thinking that this was the regular band belonging to the regiment, communications were opened with John Slatter, bandmaster of the regiment, and an effort made to have the band play in Rossland. In answer to the communication, Engle Major Barrett received a letter from Bandmaster Slatter stating that the band touring the United States under the name of the "Kilties" was not the famous "Kilties" band of the 49th Highlanders, but another organization entirely. He stated, however, that in case the members of the band decided to make a western tour of Canada during the coming summer, he would bear Rossland in mind and if a sufficient guarantee was posted, would undoubtedly play here.

If the band is brought here, or the one now touring the States, the concert will be arranged for at the skating rink. The band has established a reputation in the United States second to not even the famous Sousa organization.

THE WATER SUPPLY. NEW POWER COMPANY WILL DELIVER 7,500,000 GALLONS DAILY. TO TAP VIOLIN LAKE WITH STEEL PIPE—IT WILL COST \$100,000.

The Violin Lake Power company has been organized to take over the water rights on the pretty little sheet of water known as Violin lake, some two or three miles in an airline to the southeast of Rossland. The men at the head of the company and the originators of the project are Henry B. Smith, M. Inst. C. E., and H. Paul Renwick, P. L. S. The Le Roi No. 2 company has no connection with the Violin Lake Power company, either by being behind the company in any way or by having given an undertaking to use any part of the water that may be piped into the city. The two Rossland men, who originated the idea of utilizing the waters of Violin lake for concentrating in Rossland, have several other citizens identified with them in subsidiary sense. Their proposition is an attractive one, and probably solves in a simple manner the problem of bringing water to Rossland for the milling plants that may be expected to be got under way in the course of the current year.

The new company proposes, upon the inauguration of milling operations in Rossland becoming assured, to construct a twenty-four-inch steel pipe to convey the water from Violin lake to a point near the city. The pipe will tap the lake at its north end, where there is an elevation of 3108 feet. The dam, as surveyed, is to run around the north slope of Lake mountain to

THE FACTS FOR COUNCIL

Mine Managers Answer the Boarding House Memorial.

The Situation Explained and Some Figures Quoted.

(From Sunday's Daily.) The first of the responses to the memorial prepared by Mayor Dean and endorsed by the city council were elicited yesterday. John H. Mackenzie, general manager of the Le Roi mine, takes the matter up in a communication to the editor of The Miner, and Charles V. Jenkins, in charge of the accounting and purchasing departments of the War Eagle and Centre Star mines, discusses the question from his companies' standpoint. Both statements explain themselves. Mr. Mackenzie's letter is as follows: Editor Miner:—In a memorial received from the mayor and the city council of Rossland, B. C., addressed to me as manager of the Le Roi Mining Company, Limited, I am requested to discontinue the lodging and boarding of our employees at the mines. In order that the policy of the company which I represent may not be misunderstood by the business men of Rossland, I beg to call attention to the fact that out of 385 men now employed in and around our mines 190 are married, and 195 are single. Out of the total only 42 are boarding at the company's boarding house. This number includes the superintendent, foreman, head sampler and several other men occupying responsible positions whose services may be required by the company at any time during the 24 hours. I would point out to the honorable mayor or the city council that as a matter of protection in case of fire it is necessary to have a few men located near the works. In order to quickly man the fire apparatus, if a fire should break out in the hoisting works at night when the "shift" is underground or on alternate Sundays when work is suspended, and there is no one on duty except the engineers, the whole plant with its expensive machinery would be destroyed before men could reach the works from the city.

In paragraph 5, the memorial states that the boarding house has a great influence as to who shall enter our employment, and insinuates that a preference is given to single men. For the information of the city fathers, I wish to state that in the selection of the men no discrimination is made between married or single, union or non-union, foreign or native-born, and the only requirements necessary, or demanded by the company, are that the men should be able, experienced, and willing to do a good day's work.

Under the circumstances related, I most strongly object to the action of the mayor and city council in placing the Le Roi company and its management in a false position before the public. Very truly yours, JOHN H. MACKENZIE, General Manager. Feb. 7, 1903.

MR. JENKINS INTERVIEWED. An attempt was made last night to obtain some information from the management of the Centre Star and War Eagle. In the absence of Mr. Kirby, who is in Toronto, Mr. C. V. Jenkins was interviewed. He said that his companies had received Mayor Dean's memorial sent the boarding house question, continuing Mr. Jenkins said: "I do not wish to reply to the mayor's memorial until the return of Mr. Kirby, who, I hope, will be here in a comparatively short time, consequently no communication will be sent to the mayor until his arrival. I don't mind saying, however, that this is a question in which we have no direct concern. Neither the War Eagle nor Centre Star company is in the boarding house business, and they have no desire to be identified with it to any greater extent than in the case at present. We simply rent the building, and that is an end to the matter so far as we are concerned. I find that of the 330 men employed in our mines, less than 70 board with Mr. Tonkin. Of this number there are 20 who are members of the office and engineering staffs and the volunteer fire department who are required to live at the mine for various reasons. As to the balance I can say nothing, except that our superintendent and foreman employ the best available men regardless of whether they live with Mr. Tonkin or elsewhere. I have heard it said that preference is shown to men who board on the hill. This is ridiculous. Our mines are operated for the benefit of the owners, and not as a means of supplying Mr. Tonkin with boarders."

ANOTHER WAR. Central American Republics Said to be Ready to Fight. LONDON, Feb. 10.—The Daily Mail this morning publishes a despatch from Guatemala declaring that war has been declared between Guatemala on one side and Salvador and Honduras on the other.

RELIEF FOR FINLAND. ST. PETERSBURG, Feb. 7.—The correspondent of the Associated Press has returned from Helsinki. He found the measures for the relief of the distressed in Finland to be apparently excellently organized.

J. C. Murray, formerly of this city, but now of Trout Lake, is registered at the Allan.

UNITED STATES, and its introduction in British Columbia is due undoubtedly to the advent of the Great Northern into the province.

COURT MATTERS.

Several Chamber Applications Come Up for Hearing Today.

(From Friday's Daily.) Several chamber applications of more or less importance will come up for a hearing before Judge Forin today. No word has been received from his honor, but it is understood that it is his intention to come here today to hear the applications. Most of the applications have previously come up before Judge Forin at one time or another. The first application that will come up before his honor is that of Charles Dundee vs. A. S. Farwell et al. In this suit there are two points at issue. The first application is for an order that the defendant make discovery on oath of certain documents in his possession. The second application is that the plaintiff be at liberty to deliver certain questions in writing to defendant Temple. The case of Hastings vs. the Le Roi No. 2, which will be tried by the supreme court shortly, will be brought out once more today in the form of two chamber applications. In the case of Hermann Lukeman vs. Lavina Butte Consolidated, Ltd., the plaintiff makes application for an order for discovery. The litigation of Meyers vs. Manley, Kloekmann et al and against others separately, comes up for another hearing today, when Judge Forin will have to pass upon three applications. In the action of Edward C. Finch vs. the White Bear Mining Co., the plaintiff makes application to deliver a statement of claim. In the suit of James E. Wize vs. the B. C. (Rossland-Slocan) Syndicate, application is made for a postponement of the trial.

COURT CHAMBERS.

Several Applications Heard by Judge Forin Yesterday.

(From Saturday's Daily.) Several very interesting supreme court and county court chamber applications came before Judge Forin yesterday at the court house. The applications in the majority of cases have come up before Judge Forin before in one form or another. They were heard and disposed of in short order. In the first application, that of Charles Dundee vs. A. S. Farwell et al, the application that the defendant make discovery on oath of certain documents in his possession was granted, and in the second application, in the same cause both parties were ordered to file affidavits and issue interrogatories. In the case of Hastings vs. the Le Roi No. 2, the application for a jury was granted. The case will come up for a final settlement before the supreme court in this city shortly. In the case of Hermann Lukeman vs. Lavina Butte Consolidated, Ltd., the application for an order of discovery was granted. The application of James E. Wize to have a postponement of the trial of his action against the B. C. (Rossland-Slocan) Syndicate was ordered granted. The date for the trial has not been set. In the county court chambers, the application for an order of discovery in the action of Burnst vs. Enterprise Gold Mining Co., was granted as well as two applications for service out of jurisdiction.

INVESTIGATION DEMANDED.

Persistent Incivility at the Custom House Cause of Complaint.

Complaints have been made from time to time as to discourteous treatment of the public at the local customs office. When looked into, it has developed that most of the authentic charges of incivility have implicated W. Brown, a clerk at the office. The Miner has been requested on a score of occasions to give the matter some publicity, but refrained from doing so on the ground that the proper place to register complaints of this nature was with the higher officials of the customs department. This has now been done, and an investigation will be held at a comparatively early date. Representations have been made from at least three different sources to the department relative to Brown's lack of courtesy to the public, and the parties making the complaints have been notified that John S. Clute, inspector of ports for the province, has been instructed to investigate the matter thoroughly. Mr. Clute would probably have been in Rossland ere this had it not been for the unfortunate accident he met with in Grand Forks. This inquiry will doubtless be delayed for a few weeks until Mr. Clute is able to travel again.

CUTTING TEETH.

There is no time when baby requires more attention than during the teething period. At that time the little one is always cross and fretful, subject to stomach disorders and sometimes convulsions. Often mothers are absolutely worn out caring for baby, and the whole household is in a condition of anxiety. This condition can be easily remedied by the use of Baby's Own Tablets, which cool the sour little stomach, allay the inflammation of the gums and give the little one healthy, natural sleep. A mother's word can always be depended upon when the health of her little ones is concerned, and thousands of mothers praise this medicine. Mrs. R. L. McFarlane, Bristol, Que., says: "In my estimation, Baby's Own Tablets have no equal as a medicine for children. They are invaluable at the teething period, and I would not be without them as they keep my baby healthy and happy." These Tablets relieve all the minor ailments of little ones; are guaranteed to contain no opiate or poisonous "soothing stuff," and may be given with absolute safety to a new born babe. Sold at 25c cents a box by all druggists, or sent post paid, by writing direct to the Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont., or Schenectady, N. Y.

FARES ARE REDUCED

Spokane Falls & Northern Road Cuts Down Rates.

The New Tariff Goes Into Effect this Morning.

(From Thursday's Daily.) A brand new passenger tariff goes into effect today on the Spokane Falls & Northern road and its branches in British Columbia, the Red Mountain and Nelson & Fort Sheppard roads. The effect of the change is to substantially reduce the cost of passenger travel, which will be appreciated by Rosslanders. Heretofore passenger rates on the system have been based on a charge of 7 cents per mile on the British Columbia lines and 5 cents per mile on Washington lines. The new rate is on a basis of 3 1-2 cents per mile in Washington and 4 cents in British Columbia. A sample reduction is that between Rossland and Spokane, which rate is cut from \$7.50 to \$5.10. The Boundary gets a specially good rate from Rossland, and to Nelson a low rate is secured.

The action of the companies composing the S. F. & N. system has undoubtedly been taken to head off proposed legislation at Olympia. The existing railway law requires a 3 cent rate on all lines having more than 150 miles of road in the state of Washington. The lines of the S. F. & N. system do not come within the reach of this act, as none of them has more than 130 miles of road within the state.

During the last session of the Washington legislature a bill was introduced extending the 3 cent rate to the S. F. & N., but it never got out of committee. Residents of the Colville valley and other districts served by the roads in question took this failure very much to heart, and the matter became a leading issue at the last campaign in Stevens county and other parts of the state. Had not the companies made the voluntary reductions noted above it is certain that a strong effort would have been made in the present legislature to pass a law reducing all passenger rates to the 3 cent basis.

The amended passenger rates from Rossland to Spokane are as follows: To Spokane \$5.10, East Spokane \$4.95, Deer Park \$4.25, Loon Lake \$3.85, Springdale \$3.55, Chewelah \$2.95, Colville \$2.15, Mission \$1.90, Meyers Falls \$1.85, Marcus \$1.65, Bossburg \$1.35, Northport 65 cents (formerly \$1.25), Sheep Creek 35 cents (formerly 75 cents), Silica 15 cents.

From Rossland to Points on the Nelson & Fort Sheppard road, which is the line running north from Northport, the new schedule is as follows: To Wadneta \$1.05, Sayward \$1.20, Beaver \$1.40, Champlain \$1.50, Erie \$1.40, Selkirk \$2, Ymir \$2.30, Porto Rico \$2.45, Hall \$2.60, Mountain (Nelson) \$3.

To Grand Forks the new rate is \$3.25 as compared to the \$4 rate over the Canadian Pacific, and to Republic the rate is \$4.60.

BENEFICIAL COMPETITION.

Great Northern Compels C. P. R. to Reduce Its Rates.

The progressive policy of the Great Northern railroad in lowering its railroad rates along its trans-continental system, and especially on its branches, the Spokane Falls & Northern, the Red Mountain, Nelson & Fort Sheppard lines, has virtually compelled the Canadian Pacific railway to follow suit and reduce the tariff on all points within competing distances of the Great Northern system.

No cut has as yet been made by the Canadian Pacific on the rates now in vogue, but it is understood from reliable sources that the rates in British Columbia will be nearly cut in two, and that within a very short time, a slashing between the two roads has never been indulged in, owing to the fact that a local traffic arrangement was entered into between the Great Northern system and the Canadian Pacific some years ago.

This agreement may or may not have expired. At any rate, it has been an open secret that the Great Northern officials have long contemplated a reduction in tariff. Since the visit of James J. Hill to the city last summer, the Great Northern has finished its construction work on its branch into Republic, Columbia and Grand Forks, and this summer will probably build into Phoenix and Greenwood. The construction of these roads and branches placed the Great Northern in a position to take the initiative in cutting rates, which they have since done. The rates would have been reduced some time ago, but the officials were deterred from rearranging the tariff by other matters.

Now that the Great Northern has taken the initiative, the Canadian Pacific finds itself compelled, as it always finds itself in a position to take the initiative in cutting rates, which they have since done. The rates would have been reduced some time ago, but the officials were deterred from rearranging the tariff by other matters.

The present general Kootenay rates on the Canadian Pacific are approximately four cents a mile to all towns in British Columbia. The rate is lower wherever the Great Northern comes into competition. The regular mileage rate of three cents per mile will probably be cut down to two cents per mile. This rate is in vogue throughout the