Protecting This Province From Forest Fire Ravages

Preparations for Campaign of Protection Made by the Provincial Department

From information to be gathered at the offices of the Chief Commissioner of Lands, where during several weeks past perparations for the season's defensive campaign have been uninterrmittently under way, it is very plainly evident that the Government's revised policy for the more effectual protection of the forests is being very carefully launched by Hon. Mr. Price Ellison, the Minister directly in charge. The recent sittings of the Timber and Forestry Commission have brought more prominently before the public the necessity existing for eternal vigilance on behalf of the forests' safeguarding; and with a largely augmented defensive force, made possible by the liberal vote of $75,000 passed at the recent legislative session, it is to be both hoped and expected that fire loss in the forests will be restricted to a minimum even although the approaching season should prove to be a dry one.

The entire forest defence force of the Province is now under the supreme command of one chief fire warden, Mr. Wynyard C. Gladwni, who has established his permanent staff headquarters at room 39, 429 Pender street, Vancouver. Under Chief Gladwin, the Province is divided into five divisional districts, defined as hereunder: The Coast and Northern districts constitute the First Division, which for convenience has been placed directly under the control of the Chief Fire Warden; Vancouver Island comprises the second divisional district, Mr. William F. Loveland, of Victoria, having been appointed the Divisional Warden; Yale-Cariboo forms the third divisional district, in charge of M. J. McLean, whose headquarters are at Revelstoke; the Kanagan and Similkameen districts, the fourth for which an appointment it to be made shortly, and East and West Kootenay the fifth of the districts, of which Mr. R. J. Long of Creston has the charge. These Divisional Fire Wardens, who are all practical and especially skiled woodsmen, will travel during the season from section to section, assisting and guiding each warden in the perfection of his patrol an ddoing all else possible to minimize the fire risk. They will also be required to furnish periodical reports and generally to carry out the provisions of the Act.

Roster of Wardens.

The following is the roster of fire wardens comprising the defence forces for the present season ,with their respective districts:

No. 1.—Point Grey to Port Moody; E. E. Clugston, Eburne.

No. 2.—Point Roberts to Hope Mountain; George McCauley, Tynehead.

No. 3.—Hope Mountain to Pitt River; John R. Wren, Mission.

No. 4—Pitt River to Port Moody; H. H. McKenzie, New Westminster.

No. 5.—North to Lynn Creek; A. F. Kennedy, Vancouver.

No. 6.—Capilano to Point Atkinson; W. H. Smith, North Vancouver.

No. 7.—Howe Sound to Squamish Valley; Edward Peefs, Gibson's Landing.

No. 7.—Howe Sound to Squamish Valley; R. R. McLennan, Brackendale—division to be aranged.

No. 8.— Sechelt to Lund (Jervis Inlet); John Draney, Pender Harbor.

No. 9.—Lund to Port Harvey; R. M. Pallatt, Herriot Bay.

No. 10.—Port Harvey to Seymour Inlet; Thomas Lilley, Scot's Cove.

No. 11.—Renfrew-San Juan; E. P. Wiggs, Port Renfrew.

No. 12.—Alberni-Barkley Sound; Edward Frost, Alberni.

No. 12a.—Alberni-Quatsino Sound; A. E. Pilling, Quatsino.

No. 12b.—Clayquot-Nootka; Benjamin Lewis, Port Alberni.

No. 13.—Cowichan Lake; J. Bailey, Somenos.

No. 14a.—Cameron Lake to Port Alberni; J. B. Wood, Port Alberni.

No. 15.—Comox to Campbell River; J. W. Grieve, Comox.

No. 16.—Campbell River to Alert Bay; F. Markland, Campbell River.

No. 18.—Atlin Lake; C. E. Gilmore, Atlin.

No. 19.—Lower Skeena; J. Lunos, Bella Coola.

No. 20.—Upper Skeena; George A. Kerr, Kitselas.

No. 21.—Buckley Valley; G. A. Rosenthal, Kayleton.

No. 21a.—Francois Lake; J. B. Thompson, Aldermere.

No. 25.—North Thompson River; J. F. Wells, North River.

No. 26.—Shuswap Lake, Adams River; J. Latremouille, Kamloops.

No. 28.—Trout Lake; James C. Murray, Trout Lake.

No. 29—Okanagan Lake: C. J. Becker, Armstrong.

No. 30—Lower Similkameen: W. T. Atherton, Hedley.

No. 32—Northeast Kootenay: J. H. Taynton, Athalmer.

No. 33—Sparwood District: Thomas Folsey, Elko.

No. 34—Michel and Flathead Valley: W. A. Wilmot, Fernie.

No. 35—Fernie and south: J. W. Murphy, Fernie.

No. 36a—Jaffray and north: John A. Anderson, Jaffray.

No. 37—Kaslo-Kootenay Lakes: W. B. Strathearn, Kaslo.

No. 38—Ymir East: Andrew Miller, Creston.

No. 39—Ymir West: Harry Anderson, Trail.

No. 39a—Ymir North: Frank B. Lucas, Needles.

No. 41—Grand Forks: Charles A. Mix, Grand Forks.

No. 42—Kettle River: Sidney Oliver, Greenwood.

Appointments Pending

In addition to the above, appointments have yet to be made for District No. 14 (Parksville to Cameron Lake), No. 17 (Queen Charlotte Islands), No. 22 (Cariboo), No. 23 (Lower Quesnel), No. 24 Tete Jaune Cache-Clearwater), No. 27 (Upper Arrow Lakes), No. 31 (Upper Similkameen), No. 36 (Cranbrook), No. 40 (Slocan Lakes), and No. 43 (Osyoos). Arrangements are now going forward to fill these vacancies during the course of a few weeks at latest.

The Coast districts will have to facilitate their patrol and improve their defence facilities five motor launches, which are to be continually in service, so that men may be moved from place to place where danger may threaten, with the greatest despatch. These launches will be in charge of competent captains, proper service being thus assured.

Particular attention has been paid to the danger from fires arising in connection with railway clearing, and every precaution has been adopted to lessen the danger of fires spreading along the rights-of-way. On the new Alberni extension of the Esquimalt & Nanaimo Railway, arrangements have been made with Superintendent Beasley of the railway company, to put on an extra patrol, as it is obvious that with a large influx of settlers to the district, the danger will be greatly enhanced. The railway contractors will have strict instructions in regard to the burning of debris, and being themselves under permit and charged with the duty of preventing any escape of fire, the most effectual measures of protection should be secured. Similar precautions are being taken as regards the work in the north, and in every case wardens will be especially enjoined to watch very closely the operations of railway contractors, to the end that the surrounding timber areas may be adequately protected.

The Close Season

The close season for setting out fires for clearing land commences from the first of May and continues until the end of September. During this time no one shall set out fires for the purpose of clearing land without having first secured a permit for the purpose from the District Fire Warden or other officer for the time being authorized to issue such permits. Any breach of this regulation renders the party guilty of infraction liable to a fine of from $50 to $200 and to a term of imprisonment. It might be noted that the holding of the permit referred to does not render anyone immune from the provisions of the Act in the event of such fire escaping and doing damage to surrounding property. Printed notices will be posted from time to time by the wardens throughout the several districts, warning the public of the provisions of the Act; and a number of notices especially directed to campers will also be posted up which will bring home to the mind of the transient dweller in the forest that while he may be for the time being far from the madding crowd, he still owes his duty to his Province and to himself in the matter of exercising all due care with his camp fire and seeing that it is properly extinguished before the camp is vacated. A special notice is also printed for the instruction and guidance of the engineers in charge of donkey engines. Numerous requisites are provided for in the matter of buckets, spades and a supply of water, as well as in the clearance of a space around such engines. The staff is determined to do all in its power to protect the timber of the province from destruction by fire.

Letter Drafted.

The Chief Commissioner, as a further aid to the dissemination of knowledge respecting the contents of the Bush Fires Act, has had a special circular prepared, inviting the attention of all to the necessity of individual co-operation in the work of forest protection. This letter—copies of which will be distributed by the fire wardens in the course of their patrol—reads in its substance as follows:

"Your attention is respectfully directed to the necessity of guarding against the loss which takes place annually in the dry seasons of the year from forest fires in the various timbered portions of the province, and as a resident of the province I seek to enlist your sympathy in the work of forest protection which we are carrying on, in the hope that you will do all in your power to assist our fire wardens whenever occasion demands and do all you can from time to time to prevent the spread of fires.

"Briefly, the 'Bush Fires Act' requires that no one should set out a fire during the period from the 1st of May to the 30th of September with out having first obtained a permit from the district fire warden or nearest government official authorized to issue the same, that in camping and hunting parties care is to be taken in the selection of a fire place as well as due regard in having a camp fire extinguished before leaving and that generally care is to be taken to prevent in every way possible the spread of fire.

"It is realized that until the sympathies of one and all are obtained that measure of protection that is most desirable will not be assured, and as each individual effort will add to the sum total, and assist in the work of forest protection, I feel sure that this appeal will not be in vain."

The circular letter is signed by Hon. Price Ellison, the responsible minister.

In addition to the safeguards hereinbefore referred to, an arrangement has been made with the Public Works Department, Hon. Thomas Taylor very kindly interesting himself in the matter, whereby all road foremen are appointed assistant fire wardens, and are authorized and requested when ever danger threatens, to put their gangs on to fight the menacing element. As the equipment carried by the road gangs is of great utility in the work of fire fighting, the assistance thus afforded will be of very material value. The following road foremen will shortly receive their appointments:

Richmond District—E. McBride, road superintendent, 39 Fairfield Block, Vancouver; James Punch, Pemberton; G. Sprung and H. McBride, Point Grey ;and H. Wright, Gibson's Landing.

Yale—D. G. Sutherland, road superintendent, Lytton. John Dundas Merritt; Harry Cowden, Lytton, Richard Hamilton, Spence's Bridge; A. Raab, Hope; and Edgar B. Tingley, Otter Valley.

Cowichan—T. P. Barry, Cobble Hill; J. Patterson, W. J. Shearing and P. Carvill, Cowichan Station; P. Auchinachie and R. S. Cavin, Duncan.

Islands—J. W. Bennett, Mayne Island; P. Hunter, Thetis Island; Spencer Percival, North Pender; E. Pollard, South Pender; D. McConvey, Gabriola; F. A. Murchison, Galiano; G. E. Akerman, South Salt Spring; and J. Nightingale, Ganges Harbor.

Kamloops—William White, road superintendent, Kamloops; R. W. Bruhn, Malakwa; George Smith, Kamloops; Charles Baines, Notch Hill; F. McDonald, Charles White and Charles Meyer, Kamloops.

Fernie—P. D. Campbell and James McLaughlin, Fernie; John Connors, Michel and [illegible] Bell, Wardner.

Alberni—E. Gill, E. Frost and A. Dawson, Alberni; R. B. Brown, Ucluelet; C. T. Harvey, Clayoquot, Peter Glerup, Holberg; and George Jackson, Quatsino.

Okanagan—Alf. P. McLean, Silver Creek; C. W. Little, Mara; Wm. Hancock, Enderby; W. H. Clark, Vernon; George T. Smith, Whiteman ;Michael George T. Smith, Whiteman; Michael Hereron and George Monford, Kelowna; George McCurdy, Bear Creek; James Michael and F. Y. Bywater, Peachland; R. H. English, Summerland; W. Nuttall, Naramata; Charles Greer, Penticton; and Hamilton Lang, road superintendent.

Fire Warden's Remarks.

The following remarks of the Chief Fire Warden might very appropriately be quoted in conclusion. Says the official in question:

"I consider that it lies with the people of the province individually, to see to it that every opportunity within their grasp is taken advantage of to protect this great public asset from loss and destruction by fire and waste. If they fail to do their part, they as well as private owners, are indirectly the losers—if not directly. It cannot be too strongly impressed upon the public that there is a duty incumbent upon it to assist the forestry officials in carrying out those duties which insure prosperity to the community. A disastrous fire may in a day set up a government's labors of years or the private fortune of enterprising investors—as the result of mere lack of thought. A swift and heavy penalty is a good punishment, but it does not replace the loss or damage once it is done. Care in the first instance is the surest and safest solution of the matter.

"I do not wish to convey the impression," said Hon. Mr. Ellison in closing a reference to the forest conservation and fire problem, "that there is any lack of interest among the people generally regarding this question. On the other hand, in numerous cases there is a very real and intelligent interest taken by a large number of good citizens. While it is satisfactory as far as it goes to have some of the people taking an interest part of the time, how much more satisfactory it would be for all the people to be taking an interest all the time. I feel certain that the importance of this question is such as to commend itself to the attention of every resident of British Columbia."

Hamburg's Progress

BERLIN, April 30.—Soome interesting statistics concerning the development of the Port of Hamburg are contained in a memorandum attached by the Senate to the plans of the new docks which it is proposed to construct. During the years from 1882 to 1908 the length of the wharves actuseis arriving in the port increased from 15,540 to 38,441 yards. During the same period the number of vessels arriving in the port increased from 6,189, with a cargo capacity of 2,437,666 tons, to 16,230, with a cargo capacity of 10,911,435 tons. The cost of only the first series of harbor works to be carried out is estimated at $11,250,000.

PROGRESS OF WORK AT JORDAN RIVER

B. C. Electric Power Plant Likely to be in Operation by End of Year—Large Force of Men Employed

With a perfect organization engaged and in spite of great natural difficulties which have been encountered, the preliminary work in connection with the Jordan River power plant of the B.C. Electric Railway Co. is being carried forward in a very expeditious manner. Mr. A. T. Goward, the local manager of the company, has just returned from a two-day visit to the scene of operations. He states that 250 men are at present engaged on the work and that this number will be increased to 500 within the next few weeks. Allowing for no delay in the delivery of machinery and construction materials which have to be procured from England and Germany, there is every prospect of the plant being in operation by the end of the present year.

At present the men are split into three camps. The work now in hand includes the clearing of a site for the reservoir and a power house, and running a line which the flume will follow. By an arrangement with the Michigan Pacific Lumber Co., the lumber cut down will be utilized by the power company in constructing its flume. For the manufacture of this a saw mill has been installed at Jordan River. To carry supplies to the different camps, a track is now in operation between the wharf and Fore Bay reservoir, the rails running over a distance of two miles. Another track will be built along the flume line.

Mr. Wynn Meredith, the consulting engineer of the company, in connection with the installation of the power plant, has spent a considerable time on the scene during the past two weeks. He leaves for San Francisco in a few days time, and will return in the course of a month. E. E. Carpenter, the resident engineer, is directing the work from Victoria, paying periodical visits to the site of the power plant. A. B. Carey is the engineer in charge of the work on the ground.

Mauled by a Panther

ALLAHABAD, India, April 30.—Sir Wilfred Peek has been mauled by a panther at Devala, in Wynaad. The news was brought to Sir Wilfred that a tiger had been killed, and when he arrived at the spot it was apparent the kill was by a panther. Sir Wilfred wounded the brute, which took cover in some undergrowth. The coolies climbed up some trees, and, discovering the panther, invited Sir Wilfred also to climb. He did so, giving his gun to a shikari to hold. When he was climbing the tree the panther charged and the shikari bolted with the gun. The beast watched the shikari until he was out of sight, and then jumped a distance of 8 feet at Sir Wilfred's legs. On the first occasion Sir Wilfred kicked it on the nose, but at the next attempt it hung on to Sir Wilfred's calf. Mr. Collins hurried to the scene, but couldn't release the panther's victim until he had lodged two bullets in the brute. Sir Wilfred sustained two wounds in the calf and a bad one below the kneecap, with a scratch above the knee.

PIONEER PASSES TO HIS REWARD

Mr. Joseph Westrop Carey Dies at the Age of Eighty-One—His Career Bound Up With City's History.

Flags were half-masted throughout the city yesterday and widespread regret was voiced on all hands, when the fact that one of the oldest residents of this island and province, Mr. Joseph Westrop Carey, had passed away, became known.

Mr. Carey died yesterday morning, after having been in failing health for some time. He was in his 81st year, and had spent the major portion of his useful career in this part of the country.

The funeral will take place tomorrow morning at 10.30 o'clock, from his late home, 2842 Douglas street, where services will be held. The remains will be laid beside those of his faithful wife, in the family plot at Ross Bay. Two sons, both natives of Victoria, Herbert Clement, major in the Royal Engineers, and Joseph William, an agriculturist, survive the aged old-timer.

The late Mr. Carey was born in the parish of Ahabolgue, barony of West Musgrary, County Cork, Ireland, in 1830. His parents were William Westrope and Honora Van Stane (Collins) Carey. His father was an officer in the Thirty-third Regiment of Foot in the King's service, and was on active duty in Egypt during the Napoleonic wars. Both he and his wife were members of the Church of England, and he attained the ripe old age of 89 years, while his wife died in her fifty-sixth year. They were the parents of seven children, who reached years of maturity, but Joseph Westrop Carey was the last son of the family.

Educated in his native parish, Mr. Carey learned land surveying. He was then fifteen years of age, when, in 1845, he crossed the Atlantic to Boston, Mass. He had left home in April of that year, had spent a short time in England, and had arrived in Boston in July. There he was engaged in surveying until 1852, when at the age of twenty-four years he went to California, where for eighteen months he was engaged on the survey of what is now the boundary line of the territory of Arizona. He then returned to San Francisco, where he was employed on a contract to make a survey on the Colorado desert, and did the surveying from the San Bernardino meridian to the Colorado River. The United States deputy government surveyor was Dr. R. C. Matthewson, who secured the contract from Col. John Hayes, who was state surveyor-general at the time. Mr. Carey was Matthewson's surveyor and conducted the field work. His next work was in Mexico, where he located a colonization grant of land of forty-five square leagues of land in Lower California. In 1858 he again returned to San Francisco, and hearing of the gold discoveries on the Fraser river, he took passage for that place in company with Amor de Cosmos, Samuel J. Kelly, Selick, Rothwell and George Perks, the last named afterwards the first attorney-general of Vancouver Island.

In Lillooet

Taking up a claim on Hill Bar, Mr. Carey proceeded up the canyon to Lillooet, having a pack on his back, a shovel in one hand, and a pick in the other, while practically all his possessions were under his prospecting pan on his shoulders. Mr. Carey and his party were the discoverers of Rocky Bar. They afterwards returned from Foster's Bar and back to the forks of the Fraser and Thompson rivers, where they found their supply of provisions exhausted and were glad to pay fifty cents for a piece of horseflesh from the Indian chief, Spintlum, which, as Mr. Carey declared, "tasted good, too!" At Rocky Bar he met with good success, making about sixty dollars per day, but while there he had his hand crushed, and this occasioned his return to Yale, where he remained until the spring of 1859. He then went to Simmihamoo Bay, near Point Roberts, and was there engaged by Commissioner Campbell on the boundary survey, taking cognizance of the roads and making a map showing the topography and the distance and also marking the locations where wood and water were to be found. The commission on which he was employed proceeding later to the Columbia, he discovered the Similkameen mines. In his travels he gained a broad and accurate knowledge of the country and its resources, and few citizens, had more intimate knowledge concerning the early history of the province.

On the 16th of November, 1860, Mr. Carey returned to Victoria and located on Kane street, where he built a residence with lumber which was brought from Mendocino county, California, and cost $50 a thousand feet, while the windows and doors were made in London, Eng. In that house he resided for thirty-seven years. For a time he was employed in a store owned by the Hudson's Bay Co., and later he went to the Leech river mines. Then in 1870 he purchased land in the Colquitz valley and built a farm on what is now as the Carey road named in his honor. He improved that property, placing ninety-seven acres under cultivation. He planted six hundred fruit trees and raised cattle and hogs having as many as 125 hogs at a time. He carried on general farming with good success. In 1874 he made arrangements to survey for the government four and a half townships back to Ladner and extending to the Boundary line and to Langley. This survey he completed and also surveyed on the islands in the Gulf of Georgia. On the completion of that work he returned to his farm, and entered upon its improvement. He also invested extensively from time to time in real estate, erected houses and brick store buildings in Victoria, and at his death was the owner of much valuable property.

Mr. Carey was also always deeply interested in municipal government, and in 1865 he was elected a member of the city council, serving under Mayor Thomas Harris. He was again elected to that office in 1869, 1870 and 1871, and in 1884 he had the honor of being elected mayor of the city. All of these offices were at that time without salary and were occupied by men who were unselfishly devoted to the interests of the city and her upbuilding. He faltered in the performance of no duty and put forth strenuous efforts for the city's welfare. On retiring from office he gave his undivided attention to his business affairs, but had never ceased to be a public-spirited citizen interested in the welfare and substantial development of Victoria and the province.

His Marriage.

In 1852, in Boston, Mr. Carey was married to Miss Caroline Louise Slater, a native of Derbyshire, Eng., and a daughter of the Rev. Thomas Slater, a Methodist clergyman. He left his bride in Boston while he went to the Pacific Coast to make his fortune, and in 1859 she joined him in this part of the country, and was one of the well-known and noble pioneer women who, while less conspicuous have taken a no less helpful part in the upbuilding of the great Northwest, their influence being a power for good in the community. She died on the 19th of April, 1899, after a happy married life of forty-seven years. She had been an excellent and faithful helpmate, a devoted and loving wife and mother, and her loss was very deeply felt by her family and many friends. Her remains lie interred in Ross Bay Cemetery. They had two sons, born in Victoria, Joseph William and Herbert Clement. Mr. and Mrs. Carey gave careful attention to the early education and training of these sons and both displayed much talent in drawing. Many of their works Mr. Carey has had framed, and these, which now adorn his home, give evidence of their ability. The elder son is now on the farm which was developed by his father, while Herbert Clement is in the army as a member of the Royal Engineers and is now in the war office in London, England. His rank is that of major.

FOUR DROWN IN WEST COAST SURF

Mining Engineer and Well Known Prospector Among Dead in Tragic Canoe Disaster Near Nootka

Their canoe overturned in the surf which breaks upon the sand banks lying between Escalante Reef and Sunday Rocks, four men, Mr. Maurice McArdle, his eldest son, Mr. Bond, and Mr. Austin Luckovitch, have met with a tragic death by drowning off the west coast of Vancouver Island. For nineteen days they have been missing. News of their fate was received yesterday by Provincial Police Superintendent Hussey, who at once ordered that a vigorous search should be instituted for their bodies.

While the details so far known of the tragic happening are of the scantiest character, local knowledge of the dead men render the circumstance one of a peculiarly pathetic nature. Mr. Maurice McArdle, of Vancouver, one of the deceased, has for the past 25 years been engaged in prospecting in British Columbia, the majority of the time on Vancouver Island. For a number of years he was in the Crow's Nest and Nicola districts. He located the Carmanah fields, a property which a company has now been incorporated to operate. He was about 56 years of age: his eldest son, whose name is unknown here and who shared his fate, being about 22 years old.

In the third of the victims of the drowning disaster—Mr. Bond—a mining engineer of great promise and an Ontario Rhodes scholar of considerable distinction has been cut off in the first flush of youth. Only 23 years old, Mr. Bond came here from his home in Toronto little over a month ago. Hard work had impaired his health and he determined to try an open air life on the Pacific coast in the hope of regaining it. He was engaged by the Pacific Coast Development Company, of Vancouver, to carry out work on the west coast of Vancouver Island, and while in discharge of his duties, he, in company with the other three men, came to an untimely end.

The fourth man, Mr. Austin Luckovitch, was the son of Mr. Antone Luckovitch, the storekeeper at Hesquiot. He was aged 22 years, and the trip which ended fatally was practically the first which he had made over such a distance.

The Tragedy

The missing party, according to a dispatch received from Estevan over the Dominion wireless system, was last heard of as leaving Nootka on April 8th to go to Baja Point, to prospect for coal. Mr. Anton Luckovitch, the father of one of the men, received word from Nootka not to expect the party back for about a fortnight. Up to a few days ago he felt no anxiety, until then, walking on the beach in the direction of Nootka he found a portion of the canoe in which the missing men had set out, and also a bundle of blankets. The finds aroused suspicions that an accident had occurred. On Wednesday morning he went out in a boat and instituted a search on Sunday Rocks, where he found clothes and another portion of the wrecked canoe. A son of his, who had been carrying out a search along the beach, came across Mr. McArdle's hat and a handkerchief marked with the initials "B." This find was made on the beach abreast of Sunday Rocks. All Wednesday a patrol of the beach was maintained, but no further evidences of the disaster were discovered. Mr. Luckovitch, the Hesquoit storekeeper, has wired to the city stating that there is no doubt that all four men have been drowned, and acting on his dispatch, Provincial Police Superintendant Hussey has ordered the constable at Clayoquot to institute a thorough search for the bodies, which will be brought to Victoria when recovered.

Escalante Reef, where the accident is believed to have occurred, is formed of rocks jutting out from the shore line in a row, one rock smaller than the other, like a series of steps, until they disappear in the water. A heavy surf rolls in at this point and a fragile canoe, if not very skilfully handled, would stand little chance of surviving in any but the finest weather.

Mr. J. M. McPhee has left Prince Rupert for Stewart to superintend construction of the bridges, wagon roads and trails which the provincial government has decided upon. Bridges will be thrown across Glacier creek, Bitter creek, Bear river and American creek, besides which a ferry is to be established on Bear river, just above Bitter creek. Road appropriations of $14,000 will also be utilized, the work contemplated including a wagon road fourteen miles in length from the head of navigation to the forks of Bear river and American creek.

PHAEOPHYCEAE FOUND IN ISLAND WATERS

Possibilities of the Development of Newly Discovered Industry Luminously Discussed by Ministers

The announcement that a profitable trade in edible seaweed, which is found in inexhaustible quantity along the Saanich Inlet is being developed by the Indians, who are the pioneers in the new industry, has occasioned very considerable comment and aroused a variety of speculations since given to the public by the Colonist a week or so ago. The market for the marine vegetable products referred to is at present confined to the Chinese, who purchase from the Siwash collectors at seven cents per pound for shipment back to the Orient, also a heavy buyer of beche-de-mer and other similar products. It is suggested, however, that a home, as well as a foreign market might possible be created, and variation be given to matutinal menu by the inclusion of a distinctly unusual semi-aquatic breakfast food.

Interviewed by the Colonist as to the possibility of such a new industry obtaining encouragement, and upon being asked for further particulars of this new contribution to epicurean delights, the Provincial Minister of Agriculture very courteously explained the somewhat exceptional circumstances attending an active exploitation of this latest Island resource, while at the same time making easily comprehensible to all the character of the product which it is hoped to develop.

It, Beyond a Doubt

"In order that there may be no mistake in the identification of the phaeophyceae (as there have been grievous mistakes in accepting the poisonous toad-stool for the edible mushroom)," remarked the Minister of Agriculture, "I might say that the phaeophyceae, like the Chlorophyceae, can be derived from unicellular Flagellata, and in particular from the Chrysomonadinae which possess yellow chromatophires. On to these may be connected unicellular colonial forms like Phaeococcus, or forms like Phaeokamnion composed of a short filament. The reproduction of these by means of zoospores and conjugating gametes already agrees with the simpler Brown Algae. With the exception of a very few fresh water species, the Phaeophyceae are only found in salt water. They show great diversity in the form and diversity of their vegetable body. The simplest representatives of this class (i.e., the genus Ectocarpus) have a filamentous thallus consisting of a branched or unbranched row of simple cells. Some Phaeophyceae, again, have a cylindrical, profusely branched, multicellular thallus (e.g., Cladostephus) whose main axes are thickly beset with short multicellular branches, while in other cases the multicellular thallus is ribbon-shaped dichotomously branched (e.g., Dictyota). Other species, again, are characterized by disc-shaped or globose thalli. Two orders of Phaeophyceae may be distinguished. The Phaeospocae are vegatively reproduced by means of zoospores and sexually by ciliated gametes; they thus resemble, you see, Ulothrix among the Green Algae."

"But do you think that its cultivation may be stimulated and made yet more profitable commercially through the instrumentality of the department," asked the pressman, after thanking the Minister for his lucid and illuminative explanation?

Why Not.

"Why not!" said the Minister of Agriculture, answering the question with another. "Only look at the marked development from the lower forms of vermecilli and maccaroni of our common Brown Algo, the tubular kelp! Does not this point a lesson as to what may be done by the application of modern methods of cultivation. But I am afraid that the matter is scarcely one for my department to interest itself in, the Department of Agriculture necessarily restricting its operations to the land. As to the possibilities of development I should suggest that the Commission of Fisheries would be the proper person to consult."

Thanking the Minister for his courtesy, the interviewer in accordance with his kindly suggestions sought and—after some little difficulty—found the Commissioner of Fisheries. That busy official had but a moment to spare to the expansive programme suggested, while quite in agreement that any form of semi-equitic vegetation improving present conditions was certainly deserving of the care and protection.

"I doubt, however," said he, "that we have any appropriation at our disposal for the initiation of investigations along the lines suggested. That is a matter, I should suggest, in respect to which it would be best to consult the Minister of Finance."

The Minister of Finance was as cordial in his reception as either the Minister of Agrculture of the Commissioner of Fisheries could have been. As to the point in issue, however, he did not care to venture an off-hand ruling.

"The Legislature," said he, "has undoubtedly provided a vote of $10,000 for demonstrating and experiment work, but the point arises whether the Brown Algre can be legitimately classed as orchard product. It seems to me that such a fine point as this should more properly be submitted for determination to the Attorney General than to me."

Again the Dominion.

Upon being subsequently approached in the matter, the Attorney General courteously explained that practically all important fisheries matters are directly or indirectly affected by the reserve to the Dominion. The Privy Council, in connection with which Deputy Attorney General Maclearn has been visiting Ottawa during the past three weeks. As he has not yet returned and the result of his reference cannot be known for some time to come it would be manifestly without advantage to discuss fisheries matters in the meantime.

It is Hon. Mr. Bower's hope that in any event the Siwashes will continue to gather in seaweed and shekels simultaneously.

Nova Scotia Strike Called Off

HALIFAX, April 28.—The longest strike in the history of the coal miners in Cape Breton, that begun early in July last, has been settled. The men met this afternoon. After discussing the situation in every phase, and realizing that they had nothing to gain by longer remaining out, they took a vote on the question of whether they should go to work or continue on strike. This resulted in the majority voting to return to work at once.

DO ANIMALS REASON?

French Professor Infers That They Do From Dog, Cat and Bird Action.

PARIS, April 30.—According to Professor Lepinay, man is not the only "rational animal" in the philosophical sense. His lo[illegible] researches into the habits of domestic animals have convinced him that they have a certain amount of reasoning power, that they often act upon reflections and can associate ideas from which they draw inferences. He developed this theory in a lecture which he delivered at the new dogs' and cats' home near Rueil, where several hundred animals—pets abandoned or lost by their owners during the inundation—are sheltered. Dogs, and still more so cats, he says, learn to imitate the voice and movements of their masters or mistresses. He has noticed old watchdogs who, when they barked, had a peculiar intonation, which resembled the voice of their master. Cats, he asserts, try by the ay in which they cry to make their mistresses understand exactly what they want. This seems almost to be an effort to raise themselves to the level of human beings.

It is well known that dogs, cats and birds, when they have become very familiar friends, understand the meaning of certain words perfectly, and obey a command or intimation witout its being accompanied by any gesture. The intelligence of a bird may well be compared to that of a little child. If a strange canary is put into a cage full of others they at once cease chirping or singing, and all the birds stop to look at the newcomer. This is a clear display of intelligent curiosity. After a while they get around the intruder, and it is not rare to see one of the birds silly pick a feather out of it and bound away. This is just to tease it, as boys in the playground of a school would do to a newcomer.

The professor does not believe that the so-called learned animals of circuses may be taken as good examples of intelligence. With them it is more a matter of habit; whereas with a cat or a dog using a peculiar cry for having a door opened or getting food is, according to him, a more clearly defined case of an intelligent effort to attain an end. His conclusion, at any rate, is that the power of a certain simple kind of reasoning and reflex thought must be admitted to exist among animals.

SCOTTISH HOME RULE

Convention of Burghs at Edinburgh Takes Time to Discuss Local Government.

EDINBURGH, April 30.—At the sitting of the Convention of Scottish Burghs, in Edinburgh, a few days ago, Lord Provost Macnab of Perth, presiding, a resolution in favor of Home Rule for Scotland was carried. The subject was introduced in this wise: Ex-Provost Anderson, of Stornoway, moved: "That in the opinion of the Convention it is desirable that the Imperial Parliament should devolve on the people of Scotland the control and management of their local affairs by a Legislature and an Executive in Scotland subordinate to the Imperial Parliament." The point was at once raised whether this was not a political question, but the mover declared he approached the matter from the social point of view, it they had self-government many of the questions now troubling them would be solved.

A member, raising a point of order, said this was a political question, and to discuss it they were simply making themselves ridiculous.

The Chairman held that the motion was in order.

Ex-Provost Anderson—Why are you afraid to discuss this question? I do not want to dissolve the Union. He proceeded to refer to the circumstances of the Union, when it was remarked by Provost Muir, of Annan, "We did not come here as a Convention to listen to a historical lecture."

Provost Jamieson, of Linlithgow, seconded the motion.

Ex-Baillie Anderson, Glasgow, said that representatives of Govan, Clydebank, Pollockshaws, and other communities in the West were at present in London trying to explain to English barristers and an English Committee matters that should have been settled in Edinburgh. No business man would ever think of seeking advice upon affairs from those who knew nothing about them.

The motion was adopted.

American Opera in Paris

PARIS, April 30.—Is Paris losing her place as a musical capital? Now she has to go to New York for the elements of an operatic season. The papers announce with a frantic flourish of trumpets, the coming invasion of Paris by the Metropolitan Opera of New York. An "Italian season" is to be held at the Chatelet, from May 19 to June 23 entirely under the management of that company. The Metropolitan Opera House will furnish the singers, the chorus, the corps de ballet, the scenery, and even the costumes. The orchestra, however, will be recruited among French concert bands. For the rest, the New York Opera House company will be brought bodily over to Paris. The conductor will be Arturo Toscannini. The soloists are to include Mesdames Emma Destinn, Fremstad, and Frances Alda; Messrs. Caruso (who has hardly ever been heard here), Slezak, Pasquale, Annato, and Antonio Scotti. The operas given will be principally Verdi's Aida, Otello, and Falstaff, Signor Puccini's Manon Lescaut, Signor Mascagni's Cavalleria Rusticana, and Signor Leoncavallo's Pagliacci. The undertaking is under the patronage of a French and Italian, and an American committee, the last including W. K. Vanderbilt, J. Pierpont Morgan, and George Gould. The French press enthusiastically predicts that the New York opera performances will be the sensation of the coming season here. The undertaking, at all events, marks the most sensational American conquest of Paris yet recorded.

Major Fred Stork, late of Fernie, is in the field for the mayoralty of Prince Rupert, while among the candidates for aldermanic office are Messrs. M. M. Stephens, George R. Naden, ex-M. P. P., W. P. Lynch, A. R. Barrow, F. H. Mobley, J. H. Hildridge, H. H. Clarke and Dr. McIntyre.

CHANGES PERSON[illegible] OF SITE COM[illegible]

Dr. Pritchett of Carne[illegible] dation Unable to [illegible] Chancellor Jones [illegible] Brunswick Appoint[illegible]

Dr. Pritchett, president [illegible] negie Endowment establishm[illegible] it impossible to vary arran[illegible] viously entered into which his presence in Europe [illegible] summer, has intimated that unable to accept a seat up[illegible] mission with whom is left [illegible] of the site of the Provinc[illegible] sity. The vacancy thus a[illegible] been filled by the appointme[illegible] cellor Jones of the Universi[illegible] Brunswick, who has accepte[illegible] ing that province as well as [illegible] tia, Quebec, Ontario and Sa[illegible] representation on this trib[illegible] deliberations mean so much [illegible] of higher education in t[illegible] province.

All the commissioners are [illegible] ists of the highest standin[illegible] identified with Canadian cond[illegible] the Canadian spirit and anima[illegible] most active and well directe[illegible] asm in the cause of educat[illegible] expected that the commiss[illegible] arrive on the coast some ti[illegible] June, and will before the en[illegible] month or early in July enter[illegible] discharge of the important [illegible] lotted to them by the govern[illegible] der statutory sanction.

The commission as now fina[illegible] tuted consists of Chancellor [illegible] the University of New Brunsw[illegible] Weldon, of Dalhousie, Nov[illegible] Canon Puthie, of Laval, Que[illegible] fessor Skelton, of Queen's, [illegible] and Principal Murray, of the [illegible] of Saskatchewan.

LANGFORD AND BURNS MA[illegible]

Ex-Heavyweight Ch[illegible] Will Meet Negro Sep[illegible] 5 At San Francisc[illegible] Gets $5,000 Bonus

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., Apri[illegible] Associated Press dispatch fro[illegible] delphia saying that Sam Lang[illegible] Tommy Burns would meet in a [illegible] round battle before the Metropol[illegible] letic club in this city on the afte[illegible] September 5, was confirmed [illegible] Louis Blot, the club promoter[illegible] ford and Burns will fight for a [illegible] $35,000; of which $5,000 goes [illegible] Canadian as a bonus. The res[illegible] purse will be split, $20,000 to the [illegible] and $10,000 to the loser.

Roller Has Blood-Poisoni[illegible]

CHICAGO, April 29—Dr. B[illegible] ler, of Seattle, who was to ha[illegible] Zybosco in a wrestling mat[illegible] night, is suffering from blood-[illegible] ing in a Chicago hospital. A[illegible] sult Jess Westergaard of Des [illegible] has been substituted for Dr[illegible] Dr. Roller's illness is due to [illegible] jury he received in his recent [illegible] with Yussif Mahmout in A[illegible] Kansas City.

Training Hanlan

OTTAWA, April 29—Edward[illegible] don Hanlan, a son of the great[illegible] sculler, Ned Hanlan, will be [illegible] next fall by James Rice, the T[illegible] boy coaching Columbia. "[illegible] and me may a good turn," say[illegible] "and it's up to me to do as mu[illegible] his son." Young Hanlan is e[illegible] ed by a mining concern and [illegible] leave soon for Cobalt, to be go[illegible] till the autumn. When he gets [illegible] his sculling work will begin. [illegible] Ned is 18 years old, five fe[illegible] inches tall, and weighs 150 p[illegible] Rice says he'll be a good one.

Prussian Suffrage Reform

BERLIN, April 29.—The herre[illegible] today passed the Prussian electo[illegible] form bill, with an amendment [illegible] ing that voters in the cities and [illegible] be placed in classes larger than [illegible] of election precincts. While thi[illegible] responds with the wishes of