A Claim

AND . . . .

An Offer

WE CLAIM there is only one preparation in Canada to-day that is guaranteed to cure BRONCHITIS, and that is our CHASE'S SYRUP OF LINSEED AND TURPENTINE. It is MOTHER'S cure for her child when it is all stuffed up with CROUP and coughing its little lungs out with WHOOPING COUGH. One small dose immediately stops that cough. By loosening the phlegm, puts the little one to sleep and rest. Dr. Chase compounded this valuable syrup so as to take away the unpleasant taste of turpentine and linseed. WE OFFER to refund the money if Dr. Chase's Syrup will not do all that it is claimed to do.

Sold on a guarantee at all dealers, or Edmanson, Bates & Co., 45 Lombard St. Price, 25c.

have been infected with the codlin moth. Plums and prunes are an especially heavy yield all along the Coast, Santa Clara alone promising a production of 50,000,000 pounds. Naturally with the abundant supply prices are ruling very low for all fruits with the exception of oranges. The deciduous crops are particularly cheap, this emphasizing again the necessity for co-operation among the British Columbia fruit growers, in order that fair returns may be had for our own people. The home market in the South is at present completely glutted with fruit—so much so that blackberries were recently on sale in Portland at 50 cents for the 42 lb. crate—and naturally if British Columbia growers do not stand together their market may be swamped by the importation of this southern surplus.

NOT SORRY HE TRIED IT.

A letter from B. H. Laughlin, of Palouse, Wash., dated at Dawson City, June 15, four days after his arrival there, tells of an adventurous journey through Chilcoot Pass from Dyea, and proceeds:

"The diggings are 45 miles from here and it costs from 20 to 25 cents per pound to get packing done. The two celebrated creeks are Eldorado and Bonanza, tributaries of the Klondyke, and there are several more promising creeks in the same locality. Five hundred foot claims on the creeks are selling at prices ranging from $10,000 to $180,000 each There are about 150 claims on these two creeks that are good. An acquaintance of Charlie's bought a claim in February for $45,000 on the instalment plan, and was to make the last payment July 1, but did not need so much time, for he paid the last the day we arrived. He has 480 feet of ground left, and a surplus of $15,000. The pay streak is from 40 to 80 feet wide and the pay is in and on the bedrocks. These are drift diggings, and have to be worked in the winter time. The ground is from 15 to 30 feet deep. Times will be quiet until about October 1. Then, it is said, there will be work for 4,000 or 5,000 men.

"The Klondyke empties into the Yukon about half way between Forty and Sixty Mile creeks, but on the opposite side. Dawson City is located at the mouth of the Klondyke. Everything is temporary so far, but they are laying foundations for some large, substantial buildings. There is a small saw mill here, and lumber is worth $130 per thousand, and scarce at that. Whisky is 50 cents a drink, cigars 50 cents each. I would advise no one to come to this country, but we are not sorry that we came. If anyone should want to come here this summer or fall, I would advise him to come by the mouth of the Yukon.

"We expect to winter in this locality, hit or miss. We have not prospected any yet, but expect to get at it in a few days. The camp was not struck until last August, and it is estimated that the output to date is about $2,500,000, and will probably be $25,000,000 or $35,000,000 next year. The companies think that they can supply enough food for the winter. There will be about 1,200 people come from the outside this year, and I expect as many thousand or more next year. The winters are pretty cold—60 degrees below zero is not unusual. Mosquitoes are not much worse than at the inlet. The weather is nice at the present time. I am told that Circle City camp is about deserted, and the claim owners are offering $12.50 per day and board. Circle City is about 250 miles down the river from here."

LOST THE BARNACLES.

GLADSTONE, Man., Aug. 11.—The Conservatives held a meeting addressed by Hugh John Macdonald last night. There was a fairly large attendance. He stated that the defeat of the party last year was owing to Sir Charles not having time to defend his policy and also to the school question; but defeat was not always an unmixed evil as they got rid of a great many barnacles that had been sapping the life of the ship of State for years. He arraigned the Laurier government for being guilty of making promises which they had not kept and of breaking every pledge which they made before getting into power.

One Honest Man.

Dear Editor.—Please inform your readers, that if written to confidentially, I will mail in a sealed letter, particulars of a genuine, honest, home cure, by which I was permanently restored to health and manly vgor, after years of suffering from nervous debility, weakness, losses, and weak shrunken parts. I was robbed and swindled by the quacks, until I nearly lost faith in mankind, but thank heaven, I am now well, vigorous and strong and wish to make this certain means of cure known to all sufferers. I have nothing to sell and want no money, but being a firm believer in the universal brotherhood of man, I am desirous of helping the unfortunate to regain their health and happiness. I promise you perfect secrecy. Address with stamp:

WM. MULFORD, Agents Supplies,
P.O. Box 59, St. Henri, Que.

ROME, Aug. 12.—Count Morozzo Della Rocca, the distinguished Italian general and aide de camp of the royal household, is dead.

VICTORIA VS. SEATTLE.

Prices of Miners' Outfits Cheaper Here Than in the Sound Cities.

In Groceries and Provisions Quotations Are the Same, While Clothing is a Third Less.

The merchants of Victoria are beginning to pride themseives upon the success which has so far attended their efforts to get the trade with the Yukon mines into its legitimate channel, and while they quite appreciate the necessity which leads a portion of the Seattle press to make use of downright lying in their efforts to hurt Victoria's trade, they can only smile when they read the diatribes directed at the innocent heads of British Columbia merchants.

"It is quite evident that our commercial agent is getting to their collar," was the remark of one citizen when the editorial in a recent issue of the Seattle Post-Intelligencer headed "Touting for Trade" was shown to him yesterday.

"The one thing which has given Seattle a share of the Klondyke trade, to which it never had any right, is the fact that until within a year past the mining in the north was actually done on American soil," was Mr. D. R. Ker's comment on the editorial referred to. "When only mines on American soil were being worked," he continued, "we here in Victoria knew perfectly well that poor aliens stood but the ghost of a show to do business with the miners, but when the only rich mines in the north were discovered on Canadian soil we naturally looked upon the trade as ours. It is ours, and we intend to keep it, too! And moreover, 'the sole weapon in our armory,' to quote the Post-Intelligencer, is not the duty. We expect to do business with the mines on a business basis, and our merchants, irrespective of the protection afforded by the customs tariff actually sell their goods cheaper than the same class of wares can be bought in Seattle. It is all nonsense to talk of coming to Victoria to buy American goods.

"Take the item of flour for instance, even our American cousins will admit that the Manitoba product is the equal of any flour made anywhere, and while the Hungarian flour, made from the fine, hard wheat of the prairies, costs a little more than that made from the soft Oregon cereal, a barrel of the former will make from 40 to 50 pounds more bread than the latter—weight for weight. Hence it is easily seen that the Canadian article is in the long run the more economical.

"Beans are grown by the ton in British Columbia, and are equal to the imported, of which latter of course there are plenty to be had. The Seattle merchants modestly lay claim to ten years' experience in outfitting for the mines, while there are many business men in Victoria to-day who have not only shouldered their packs in times gone by, but have ever since 1858 been outfitting other miners more or less every year. Look at the millions of gold taken out of Cariboo through the outfitting of Victorians, and the same with Omineca and Cassiar. And it should be remembered that the conditions of mining in the latter district are to all intents and purposes identical with those in the Klondyke.

"Why, as far as experience goes, Seattle simply isn't in it. It is quite evident when a paper of the supposed standing of the Post-Intelligencer begins to whine about our commercial agent, that he is doing his duty, and our just claims are beginning to be recognized."

Canadian shovels, picks and axes can be bought in Victoria at prices even lower than similar goods can be bought in Seattle. Besides this, from actual experience American manufactures of this kind are quoted (duty paid) at figures as close as can be obtained on the Sound, which fact the great British Columbia hardware firm of E. G. Prior & Co. are quite capable of demonstrating to anyone interested.

Mr. James Angus, of the B. C. Sugar Refinery, says that in this particular article the Seattle price is a long way ahead of the Victoria quotations—not taking into account the duty of one cent per pound. In Seattle the present price of sugar is 5½c., while here 5c. per pound is the current rate. And with respect to flour, it is a well-known fact that Hungarian flour contains much more nutriment than any other, and it has been calculated that this difference is at least 20 per cent. in favor of the flour ground from hard wheat, so that the difference of 80c. a sack is much more than made up by the saving in the other particular.

Mr. M. Lenz, of Lenz & Leiser, summed the whole thing up in a single sentence when shown the article referred to, particularly the portion as to blankets.

"These goods are sold here a third less than they are in Seattle, irrespective of duty. Why, such a thing as an American blanket is not known in Victoria, and in woollens we can simply knock the spots off the Sound city; and it is only reasonable for us to sell Canadian woollens, as wool is imported free of duty into this country, while the Seattle firms sell manufactures of wool that are protected in the raw state by a duty of about 70 per cent. It stands to reason, therefore, that all Canadian woollens of the same quality are a long way cheaper than the American article. Mackinaw, for instance, which is so much spoken of in connection with the mines, is almost exclusively made in Canada and couldn't be imported from the United States. As to the rubber and leather boots, the same is true, too—the Canadian article is cheaper."

Mr. John Piercy said that the trade in Victoria in woollens was exclusively in English and Canadian manufactures. In the case of tweeds, for instance, the Canadian protection was from 25 per cent. to 35 per cent., while the Americans taxed their imports in this line at the rate 60 per cent. to 70 per cent., and it was absurd to think that in any particular case woollen goods could be purchased, even nearly, as cheap in Seattle as in Victoria, leaving out the question of duty altogether.

Simon Leiser & Co. had yet to find a single case in which Victoria prices would not compare with those of Seattle, and the proof of this was the fact that many of the largest buyers among the American companies doing business on the Yukon come to Victoria with their orders—thousands of dollars' worth every year.

The Hudson Bay Company who par excellence are the outfitters of the civilized world, and whose immense stores are found everywhere throughout the Dominion can with reason claim to be the pioneers in this line of business.

"Talk about ten years' experience in outfitting! why, since 1849 we have practically been doing this every year up to the present time. In fact, you can say ever since 1670, when the company was founded. And as to outfitting for the Yukon, why this company has been doing that for the last twenty years, while, as the world knows, our experience in trading in Arctic climes is as old as the century.

"With reference to that portion of the leader in the paper named which states, 'the man who goes to a British Columbia city to be outfitted will buy there American flour, beans and bacon; American tools, American blankets and American rubber boots and leather shoes,' why this is simply all rot. Our company have their own flour mills, beans are grown by the carload in the Bonaparte valley, and bacon is cured right here in town, while American blankets are never heard of in our trade. We can beat the Seattle prices all to pieces. Sugar which they quote at 5½ we can sell for 5c., and canned soups at $1.50 per dozen packages instead of $4.75, with many other similar differences in favor of Victoria."

Wilson Bros. said it was foolishness to talk of a few hundred outfits running any merchant short. "Why," remarked Mr. Wollaston, the manager of the firm, "each miner at most takes one ton and this includes clothing, hardware, provisions and everything in his kit, and any one house in Victoria could outfit many miners in a day and hardly notice reduction in stock. I believe a thousand miners could outfit in Victoria tomorrow and there would be plenty of goods left for the next day. Victoria merchants would be glad to fill every order for a Yukon outfit that will go into the new mines at the prices Seattle merchants are getting; and at prices here at present it means a big saving to the miners. To one party who called for prices we made a saving of nearly $30 on an order for $135; he having unknown to us obtained Seattle prices for the same goods which came to $163. I saw an invoice to-day from a Seattle firm, in which fluid extract of beef was charged at $8.50 per dozen, while local houses supply the identical article for $4.50. The fact is that large quantities of this particular brand, which is of Canadian make, are shipped to Seattle from Victoria by the local agents. The Seattle papers may fool a few tenderfeet, but that will not after facts. Only to-day we received a telegraphic order for nine tons of groceries for a party of several Easterners, who will arrive shortly en route for the new mines. Col. Word and Murphy Davis, both leading people of Helena, Mont., have outfitted here, and that, too, with such satisfaction to themselves that they intend advising both the press of that city as well as their friends that Victoria is the proper place to come to outfit for the Klondyke."

Mr. J. H. Todd, of J. H. Todd & Sons, while admitting that there are many articles in the line of provisions sold to outfitters here bought originally from the other side of the line, points out one fact which must not be overlooked. This is, that admitting the goods to be of American origin, they do not pay as much duty upon wholesale invoice as they necessarily must if purchased by retail on the other side of the line and thus taken into Canada by consumers. Of course the American goods constitute but a part of the intending miner's outfit, but even this part can be purchased more profitably here than on the other side of the line.

Messrs. E. B. Marvin & Company are quite sure that none of the articles which they supply for the northern trade are of American origin, and do no know of anything save bacon and canned tongue which comes into the British Columbia wholesale houses from the United States. And then miners as a rule use only an insignificant quantity of canned tongue.

Messrs. Thomas Brothers & Grant laugh at the suggestion of clothing for the treasure seekers being imported from Seattle, at the same time pointing out that the Mackinaw suit—the great standby of the northern backwoodsman—is selling here for $8, and in precisely the same quality in Seattle for $11. The reason is that all woollens used in outfits here are either of English or Canadian production, and the duty is largely in favor of the Canadian manufacturer as against the American. There is not an item in the outfitting line that comes to this firm from the other side of the line, and, as Mr. Grant expresses it, "all the talk of the P.-I. to the contrary is nothing but double blanked rot."

It is unfortunate for Victoria that the telegraphic communication with the outside world is so liable to untoward interruptions. In connection with the Seattle outfitting of Yukon miners, one firm yesterday made the complaint that through the delay of a telegram four out of a party of ten were misled into buying across the Sound. The telegram was filed in Victoria at 9 a.m., but did not reach its address in Seattle until the following day. But in spite of these little annoyances Victoria is day by day gaining a larger share of the Yukon trade.

IN the city police court yesterday, William Thompson was sentenced to three months imprisonment with the accompaniment of hard labor, for theft. He had been sent to the steamer Islander to bring up a passenger's valise. At the same time he took possession of another passenger's grip which was conveniently near. On discovering his mistake, Thompson, instead of returning the property, concealed it in a packing case in the rear of a Yates street wholesale house. This concealment proved the deathblow to the defence of mistake.

THE usual weekly meeting of the Sir William Wallace Society was adjourned last evening to enable the games committee an opportunity to complete arrangements for the sports on the 21st inst. In consequence Mr. E. B. McKay's lecture on the Klondyke was postponed until next week. Splendid progress has been made with the programme of sports for the approaching field day. The Gordon Highlanders will march to the Caledonia grounds in parade, headed by the pipers. Mr. Hewitt Bostock, M.P., has generously donated a handsome cup to be contested for yearly for tossing the caber, and to become the property of the winner for three years in succession.

AND STILL THEY GO.

How the Prospective Millionaires are Faring on the Road to the Diggings.

Fortunes in Packing in Supplies as Well as in the River Sands of the Yukon.

To-day and to-morrow two large steamers, the Bristol and the Islander, set sail from here for Skagway, the seaport of the White Pass route to the upper Yukon—with between four and six hundred eager fortune-seekers, two-thirds as many horses, and supplies sufficient to maintain a regiment through a twelve months' siege. And this in spite of the reiterated advice of those who have gone before, not to attempt the overland passage until spring.

There are now upwards of two thousand men blockaded between Dyea or Skagway and Tagish lake, the majority accepting philosophically the fact that they must camp there until spring; the fortunate few who have sure-footed pack horses pushing on over the washed-out mountain trail, while a large percentage are offering their outfits at a song and preparing to return empty-handed to the homes they so lately left.

The outgoing crowds to-day and to-morrow are from every part of the globe, one large party from New England, another from Minnesota, a third from New York and Pennsylvania, and still another little group from the far away island of Corsica.

They are only guided by the advice of those before them on the rush to this extent—that they are one and all taking their pack horses with them, and sufficient cooler to keep the beasts alive until Tagish lake is reached. Those who depend on Indian packers find that these natives have now enough work ahead to keep them constantly employed until two years hence; while those who took pack horses with them by the earlier boats, counting upon the forage by the way, only learned when it was too late that grasses along the mountain trail are this year an unknown quantity.

All the hay and oats that can be got aboard the boats now leaving will be forwarded to save the famishing animals by the Brackman-Ker Company. Special steamers are also being engaged for the sole purpose of transporting fodder, while Victoria and Seattle business houses are opening branches at Dyea, Skagway and the Pass for dealing in such stores. The packing of goods to the head of Yukon navigation offers a means of money making second only to the diggings themselves, and accordingly the Victoria Transfer Co. have already a pack train of 36 animals at work, while a second Victorian company under the management of Mr. John Grant sends 54 horses, mules and oxen to Skagway by the Bristol, with the object of handling freight between that point and Tatoosch lake.

Their first contract is for the taking in of 75 tons of supplies for the mounted police, and as the packing charge is 20 cents a pound, a nice little item of $30,000 is already in sight. The police are under orders to travel light and report for duty at their several stations at the earliest possible moment, so that the handling of their supplies affords an admirable opportunity for private enterprise. The company to whom this transportation contract has been given will also open posts at Skagway and Telegraph Creek, the latter point promising to be the key to the business in the spring, when the Stickeen-Teslin lake route will unquestionably command a large portion of the great rush. Canadians feel keenly the efforts of the American cities of the Northwest coast to secure a cancellation of the bonding privileges through their narrow strip of territory between Skagway and the coast—these efforts being in the nature of a protest against the collection of the ordinary customs duties on foreign goods entering this part of the Dominion—and will lose no time in making themselves independent of the American courtesy by perfecting the all-Canadian route.

By spring it will be the best packing route of all, according to the reports of those who have been over both roads.

Of those who are already on their way to the mines, M. J. Conlin, ex-sanitary inspector of this city, writes to his wife as follows:

"Even on the trip to Dyea by the Islander the trouble for the poor pack horses commenced. Some of the gold-seekers had not taken enough feed to carry their stock through the trip, and commenced helping themselves from the stores of their more provident neighbors. A meeting was held and 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. named as the hours for feeding. 'Take fodder at any other time at your peril,' concluded the notice adopted and duly posted; and so ended our first experience of miners' committee rule.

"Two-thirds of the people who have come north in the rush," the letter proceeds, "are an honest, sturdy, industrious lot, who mean to work for whatever fortune has in store for them; the other third are a worthless lot who never worked and never will—gamblers and saloon loafers for the most part, who count upon fleecing the miners.

"The Americans were wild about paying duty on their outfits when the Canadian line was reached, but the customs' officials were firm and there was no way round it.

"We in our own party have excellent prospects of getting across the pass, having our own pack horses and plenty of feed for beast as well as man. We shall make for the Stewart river country, selling our stock as soon as we have no longer any use for it. We have already been offered as much as $100 a head for our horses when we have got through with them."

In another letter from the same correspondent it is sad that "it is utter foolishness for anybody to go up this fall, as their chances of getting through are lessened every day. Many of the men are already discouraged, and are offering their outfits below cost. Others are so keen to get across the pass that they are bidding fabulous prices for the services of the packers. I would advise men leaving for the North now to take nothing with them but flour, bacon and beans. The balance of an outfit can be purchased cheap from those who are turning back. No lumber can be taken across the trail, and the men who brought up boats in sections have had to throw them away. We have sold our lumber, and intend whipsawing enough at the lake to build our boats. There is considerable stealing going on, and sentries have been posted in the front of each tent. At Chilcoot pass a white man shot an Indian for attempting to rob him. The case was at once reported to the mounted police, but as they found it was shooting to resist a burglary, they held it to have been justifiable."

Other letters from Yukon-bound Victorians are of much the same tenor. The McKenzie party of fourteen, from Nanaimo, has secured a pack train capable of carrying 3,000 pounds, and expects to reach Tagish lake by the end of the present month. The second Manitoba contingent, who spent some time at the Dominion hotel here, has been equally lucky, and is already on the march. A correspondent of a Victoria business hoouse, who went North by the Islander, summarizes the situation in business-like fashion, writing from Skagway on the 8th of the present month, to the following effect:

"We arrived here to-day. The trail is in good condition over the White Pass. There are a great many here who cannot move on account of not having horses. No trouble with the United States customs; everything goes through in bond. United States customs officer comes with us from Mary Island—a nice fellow. We have to buy all the food we consume while on United States soil at Juneau, as we cannot break our packages until over the line. If you fit others out you can put in a box or package of food, not in bond, that could be used by paying the United States duty."

ON BOARD THE BRISTOL.

"Bristol will positively sail on Saturday at 4 p.m."

This was the announcement conspicuously placarded on the shed along side where freight was being slung into the big ship as rapidly as it could be handled yesterday. As the time draws near for her departure, the commotion about the steamer increases, the crowds grow larger, orders are given more sharply, and in general the scene becomes more animated. On board amidst all the seeming confusion, the baker and the butcher are busy at work in their respective places, and the huge joints which the latter handles would almost make the man of economy apprehensive, for the butcher is not only evident in one quarter but in half a dozen. Two carloads of horses came in on the City of Kingston during the early morning yesterday for transhipment on the Bristol. More are to arrive on the same vessel for the same purpose to-day, and as they come the hold of the big ship gradually fills up. By the ship's sides two scows are being built for the convenient and comfortable landing of the Bristol's load. They are designed for shallow water and will carry passengers ashore safely and dryfooted. The Victoria passengers who are to sail on the Bristol are: Thomas Fandrean, Gilbert Small, J. S. Elstner, J. T. Elstner, Master Joseph Elstner, Thos. X. Jones, Fred Vater, J. Thomas, William Thomas, Angus McKenzie, A. McKenzie, J. W. McKenzie, J. W. McLellan, F. Mariagge, D. Bonnin, L. Oponx, F. W. Shaw, A. H. Richert, G. Rogers, N. Duclos, L. Chabert, J. Gergoire, T. Story, E. P. Connell, O. Ramstad, Samuel Hastings, Levi S. Rice, A. M. Bambridge, Frank Burghardt, J. McBride, A. Anderson, J. D. Hawerson, J. N. Hill, C. M. Lucher, O. Nohlft, E. B. Newman, Arthur Maves, Frederick Maves, N. Kepburn, Geo. Wilson, J. Tuphon, E. Kuantz, J. Foley, P. Scharschuett, John Dalby, William Dalby, John Grant, Servel Dalby, Ed. Hodge, Robert Wilson, Q. D. H. Warden, John L. Koch, D. Allen, H. Elsden, W. Snider, W. J. Deasy, T. Corder, E. Sherer, W. R. Cadman, A. Heathorn, S. P. Morlin, Frank Turner, R. H. Smith, P. A. E. Gibson, O. W. Bartlett, O. S. Batchelor, H. D. Gordon, H. C. Copeland, George Macleod, George Cooden, R. C. McDonald, Chas. Bischert, Wm. Sargent, D. J. McLean, John Know, R. Houston, R. H. Roper, W. Rennie Tipph, R. H. Wilson, W. Ford, T. Luscombe, W. H. Perry, and J. Roper.

In addition to the above list a much larger number have been ticketed at Sound cities and at Vancouver, of whose number Messrs. F. C. Davidge & Co. cannot as yet give any definite estimate. The agents are allowing each passenger to pack his personal effects and all the feed that will be required for their animal, if they have any, on the trip free of charge.

While the Bristol's load is nearing completion the Islander, which sails tomorrow, is not far behind. She will have all the horses she can carry, but will not, it is believed, carry as many people as she did on the first trip. The Danube, too, which sails on the 15th, is already having freight and passengers booked for her, and the present prospects are that she will be full.

H. C. BULL, who has an assay office on Broad street, has just returned with Mr. Beaumont Boggs from a trip to Texada. While on the "golden island" he visited the Surprise, Lion, Tiger and Victoria and Texada properties. The Surprise, which belongs to a Comox syndicate, has a shaft down 176 feet and shows indications of a good ledge, sufficient to warrant the extensive development work which will be done on it shortly. The mine is being well equipped, and heavy shipments from it may be looked for soon. At the Tiger the shaft has reached a distance of 27 feet, where a clearly defined ledge is in sight, which on further development should improve, as assays already obtained have been very satisfactory. On the Victoria-Texada the tunnel which was first started has now reached a distance of 170 feet, the face appearing well mineralized between two well defined walls. A new tunnel has been driven to strike the ledge where the 14-ton shipment of free milling ore was taken out that was recently crushed at the Victoria metallurgical works, and has now reached a distance of 12 feet from the approach, the intention being when a sufficient distance is reached from the shore line to run a return slope towards the pay ore, which now lies underneath the water. The 100-foot shaft on the Silver Tip is to be extended, eight men being employed on the property. A number of men are now working on the iron mine in the interests of a Puget Sound company.

Dry Goods Failure.

PETROLIA, Aug. 12.—C. Pearce, dry goods, has failed with liabilities of $100,000. Thibaudeau Bros., of Montreal, are large creditors.

NEWS OF THE PROVINCE

Victoria's North Bound Steamers in Request—Protest Against Export Duties.

Alberni Folk in Great Sprits—Long Distance Telephoning in Kootenay.

(Special to the COLONIST.)

VANCOUVER.

VANCOUVER, Aug. 13.—This has been passed by the council of the board of trade: "That whereas the Canadian Pacific Navigation Co. has departed from its promise to the public that all their steamers leaving Victoria for Dyea should call at Vancouver to embark passengers and freight, and now advertises the Islander to sail on the 15th inst., from Victoria direct; and, whereas such action is highly prejudicial to the interests of merchants and business men of this city, and calculated to divert trade which would otherwise be done here in supplies and outfit for miners; therefore it is desired to record this board of trade's strongest protest and condemnation of the breach of faith entailed in this charge referred to; and desires that all possible pressure be brought to bear upon the Canadian Pacific Navigation Co. to adhere to the promise before mentioned: Resolved that a copy of this resolution be sent to the management of the Canadian Pacific Navigation Co., and to the local papers for publication."

The special committee on Transportation to the Yukon reported as follows: "Your committee held a meeting on the 6th inst., and beg to report that they have communicated with the Union SS. Co., Ltd., of Vancouver, and Canadian Pacific Navigation Co. and the Northern Pacific SS. Co., of Seattle, with a view to obtaining transportation facilities from these companies. Your committee have also corresponded with the Canadian Pacific Railway Co. with the same object, but owing to the short time since they were appointed they are unable as yet to give any further particulars."

The following motion was also carried: "Whereas there is a considerable and rapidly increasing trade to the Yukon, and it is desirable to afford facilities for commerce to reach it in order to compete successfully with foreign competition; therefore be it resolved, that the desirability of opening up a route entirely through undisputed British territory be strongly urged upon both the Dominion and Provincial governments; and further, that they be asked to assist in the immediate construction of the same."

C. T. Dunbar left yesterday for the Sound en route for Juneau.

As the result of a clean up of 1,192 tons of low grade cemented gravel of the Horsefly claim 94½ ounces of gold was realized after a run of 426 hours.

The Fire Mountain mine, Harrison Lake, sent to the Victoria Metallurgical Words to-day one and a half tons of rock for reduction. Manager Anderson, who came down with the ore says the tunnel is now in sixty feet on the vein.

Mr. J. R. Seymour has some rock taken from the claim adjoining the Oro Fino, at Fairview. It shows a rather unusual condition of visible gold in galena.

Vancouver merchants are securing a good share of Klondyke trade. Mr. Braid, of Braid & Co., says that Vancouver is now prosperous. Legitimate trade is flourishing owing to the all around activity in the mining world. The demand from the numerous and ever increasing mining camps will not pinch out, but go on increasing.

WESTMINSTER.

NEW WESTMINSTER, Aug. 13.—The sockeye run is petering out, but another big run is expected before the end of the season.

Dr. W. A. DeWolfe Smith has left for a six weeks' visit to the East, being one of the delegates from this province to the meeting in Montreal of the British Medical Association. The Doctor will also take part in the Dominion Rifle Association matches at Ottawa.

Captain Cooper, of the Courser, reports that Harrison lake is in a very dirty condition, the reason for which cannot be accounted for. He states that he has visited this lake for several years past, at all seasons of the year, and has never known the water in the lake to be in such a state as it is now in. It is suggested that this is caused by some volcanic action, but others hold that the dumping of mine refuse has wrought the change.

ALBERNI.

The Alberni Consolidated is looking better than ever. One tunnel, now in some fifty feet, has been running with a ledge (Simpson) fairly glittering with gold. The yellow metal can be easily picked out with a pocket-knife, and must run up into the thousands to the ton. Another ledge running parallel to this one, of nine inches in width and of the same character as far as metal is concerned has been prospected by a tunnel 35 feet in length. Some fifty tons are now lying ready for shipment. Everybody in Alberni is in high glee over the good prospects in this mine, which in every way is as good as any claim in the Klondyke. The Missing Link, an adjoining claim, and containing an extension of the Alberni lead, is also in similar ore. A shipment of fifteen tons of rock will be made from this mine by the next West Coast steamer.

ROSSLAND.

A mass meeting of citizens was held in the opera house this evening, Mr. J. M. Martin presiding. Between 500 and 600 attended, and the business men were especially in evidence, and strong speeches in opposition to the imposition of an export duty on ore at this time were made by Messrs. J. B. McArthur, Edward Hewitt, Alfred Woodhouse, Dr. Sinclair, and Smith Curtis. Captain Hall, superintendent of the Le Roi company, explained how Northport had come to be selected as the site for the smelter now being erected by his company, and whose construction led to the agitation in favor of an export duty. The following resolutions, introduced by Mr. J. B. McArthur, were unanimously adopted:

"Resolved, that this meeting views with alarm the agitation for the imposition of an export duty on ores which are alone produced in the Rossland camp, and which agitation is both unwise and impolitic, and not at all justified by the conditions which exist at the present time in this district.

"That an export duty on ores would not operate under present conditions, and so long as they continue, would be an oppressive tax on the mine owners, and a continual menace to capital seeking investment, the purchase and development of our mines. The imposition of an export duty on our ores would not meet the mining conditions as they exist in this camp, nor would it induce capital to make investments in smelters in this district so long as the present railway facilities for transportation for ores and phases remain unchanged.

"Then what this camp needs now is not an export duty on our ore, but a direct and independent railway connection to some point on the Columbia River, where the best smelting facilities may be obtained, and with this object in view, we beg to call the attention of the Federal government to the fact that the C.P.R., notwithstanding the enormous subsidies which it has received, and which the people of Canada have heavily taxed themselves to pay, has failed in its obligations to this camp and the country. Some of the large mine owners of this camp have offered the C. P. R. a daily tonnage of 1,500 tons if it would build a line from Rossland to the Columbia River, where they would erect their own smelters, and that offer remains unanswered, although made over six weeks ago.

"That, before any action in the way of placing an export duty on ore is taken the Governor-General-in-Council should appoint a committee of metallurgists to visit the several sections of the country in which are mining ores containing pyrite, nickle, gold, copper, silver and lead, to mingle with mine owners and get their opinion as to the best interest of Canada and its great mineral resources, and if they find that it is to the best interest of the Dominion to place an export duty on ore, that they will not single out one section and impose an export duty, but make it universal by placing an export duty on all ore going into the United States; and further, that the chairman of this meeting appoint a committee of three to prepare a memorial to the Dominion government embodying these views and setting forth in detail the facts on which they are based."

The telephone line between Rossland and Nelson is now constructed for a distance of five miles this side of Nelson. It will cross the Columbia river at the point where the Kootenay river empties into it, on an overhead cable, and will be built over Trail and up the Columbia & Western railroad to Rossland. When the line is completed there will be a chain reaching from Nelson to Vancouver, via Spokane, Portland and Tacoma. Under the most favorable conditions Rossland could talk to Portland, but beyond that the message would have to be repeated.

J. B. McArthur, secretary of the West Kootenay Light & Power Company, says work is progressing favorably on the big electric plant on the Kootenay river. The rock excavation will be completed in two more weeks, if no accident happens, and everything will then be ready for the machinery. About 75 men are engaged on the excavation work. Sir Charles Ross says he now expects to be able to deliver power in Rossland by November 1.

THE CITY.

MESSRS. WILSON BROS. have had the contract of outfitting the detachment of the Northwest mounted police now in the city. This order represents about forty-five tons, and was all packed ready for shipment yesterday.

LAST evening at the First Presbyterian manse Rev. Dr. Campbell united in marriage Mr. William McDonald and Miss Margaret Bruce, both of Victoria. The bridegroom was supported by Mr. H. Bruce, a brother of the bride, and Miss K. A. McKenzie was bridesmaid. The happy couple will make their home in Victoria West.

THE Westminster corespondent of the Vancouver World describes with great picturesqueness the scenes incidental to the departure of the Bristol from this port for Dyea. Inasmuch as the Bristol did not sail on the 10th, as the corespondent had counted she would, his faking falls with a fearful flop, and even its artistic quality fails to redeem it.

NO PROGRESS was made yesterday in the matter of the application for a retrial of the case of James Wood, of Nelson, under sentence of death for murder. When the Full court sat as a court of criminal appeals, Mr. L. P. Duff, representing McDonald and Johnson, of Nelson, asked leave of the court of appeal, on the ground that the statement of the deceased had been improperly admitted as evidence. This is the second step in the course to be adopted to secure a rehearing. Argument upon the motion is set for to-day.

IN the Full court yesterday, the bench being composed of the Chief Justice, with Justices Drake and McCreight, application was heard upon a motion for leave to appeal to the Privy Council in England from the judgment recorded in the case of Koksilah vs. The Queen, in which the decision of the Full court was handed down only a short time ago. This judgment was to the effect that the defendants being too late with their appeal under the old act, could not now avail themselves of the provisions of more recent legislation. Mr. Hunter, in making the present application, announced that the necessary security had been deposited, and the leave applied for was accordingly granted.

DURING his recent visit to Washington, Oregon and California, Inspector R. M. Palmer of the Department of Agriculture has been making careful inquiry as to new varieties of fruit, especially suitable to British Columbia demands and conditions. Some of these he brought back with him to be tested. They include the Tragedy prune, an early shipping variety that will probably be of especial value to British Columbia for shipping to Manitoba and the Northwest Territories. One or two other good varieties for drying will also be thoroughly tested, notably the Pacific prune and the Imperieus, the latter a new French importation of considerable promise. In apples, Britith Columbia already possesses better varieties than have any of the states to the south.

F. S. Barnard has returned from the provincial Mainland.