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PROSPEROUS VICTORIA

Wholesale Merchants Pronounce Business Better Than Last Year and Improving Still.

People Buying Plenty of Goods and Have Money to Pay for Them.

From a business standpoint Victoria is strictly all right to use a somewhat expressive bit of slang, for while there is an occasional croaker who predicts that the city is dead and pulls a long face, one cannot find such a man among the business community. Of all the wholesalers spoken to yesterday in the course of a round of visits paid here and there among some of the larger firms not one man was met who did not say that business to-day is not only better than it was at the same date a year ago but that collections were quite as good and in many instances far more satisfactory. What they did kick about, and that very freely, was that the disgraceful condition of the Victoria streets was calculated to have a bad effect upon visitros and give the erroneous impression that business could not be prosperous in a city where the streets were allowed to get into such disrepair.

Mr. D. R. Ker, of the Brackman & Ker Milling Co., when asked what were his views, said emphatically that business was better now than it had been for three or four years back and certainly his firm had nothing to complain of. As for collections, one of the best indications of business the firm found them better than ever before in Victoria.

The next place visited was that of Lenz & Leiser, wholesale dry goods. Mr. Moses Lenz said that trade at present was above the average and collections were very fair. What would benefit the Victoria retailers, however, would be better streets with permanent improvements, not a mere patching up here and there as had hitherto been the case. The travelling trade, such as tourists brought was of great advantage to the retailer and the only way Victoria could hope to retain and increase the tourist trade was to make the city as attractive as possible and not depend too much on the unrivalled natural attractions of scenery and situation that the city already had.

Mr. Thomas Earle, wholesale groceries, was very cheerful over the business situation, for he found it better than ever before and steadily growing, while collections also were fair. A general development was going on throughout the whole country and Victoria wholesalers were getting their share of the trade on the Mainland, especially in the Kootenay. Anyone who noticed the immense quantities of goods that were being handled in Victoria could not fail to admit that business was good and growing.

Mr. L. G. McQuade, of P. McQuade & Son, ship chandlery and wholesale oils and paints, said that trade in general was good and larger than last year with collections fairly good. Of course just now there was a lull in the supplies for steamers as the Klondike steamers building in the early part of the year made things extra lively then in that line. But aside from this branch business was increasing. There were immense shipments of goods in and out of Victoria, far more than people imagined. That meant increased trade.

There was more money in circulation in Victoria than a year ago, according to Mr. G. A. Kirk, of Turner, Beeton & Co. His firm had, he said, done a bigger business during the present year than during a similar period last year. Trade in fact was better all round in the city. What was badly needed, however, was that the streets in the business centre should be paved. People arriving on steamers should not have they eyes offended by poorly kept streets. If only a small portion was done a year it would be a benefit, but the citizens should take steps as soon as possible to get better streets some way and as soon a possible.

"Good" was the word applied to business by Mr. John Piercy, of J. Piercy & Co., wholesale dry goods. His firm's business was growing gradually and lately business generaly had taken a jump. He had found collections pretty good and had no complaint to make as far as his own business was concerned. His firm was busy and were selling a lot of goods.

Henderson Bros., wholesale drugzists, were well satisfied with the business situation. They found collections very fair and business growing so they had no reason to feel dissatisfied.

Mr. S. J. Pitts, wholesale groceries and commission, pronounced collections good and mentioned the expansion of the Northern trade as one reason why business had kept up this year.

Mr. R. Seabrook, of R. P. Rithet & Co., remarked that business in their various lines had been a large increase over last year. This resulted in the firm having to employ more men. Collections were fully as good as last year and while there was the usual autumn lull just now business now was fully up to the similar period a year ago.

At the Hickman Tye Hardware Co. Mr. Temple said that there was not a month this year that did not show an increase. Collections, too, were better. The Klondike trade had helped very materially and he looked for continued expansion in trade generally.

These were the views gathered from the firms seen yesterday and no doubt had there been time to interview others the same story would have been told. Not a single croaker was to be found among them but all had the same story to tell of increasing trade and a bright outlook for Victoria.

GENERAL LORD SEYMOUR.

Commander of the British Troops In Canada Arrived Last Evening.

Lieutenant-General Lord William Seymour, commanding the British forces in Canada, arrived last evening from Halifax, and will remain for ten days or two weeks at Mount Baker hotel, where he and his party registered last evening. While here Lord Seymour will inspect the Esquimalt fortifications, but his visit is not an entirely official one, and he will probably take a short cruise on one of the ships of the Pacific fleet before returning East. The party came direct from Halifax, but will return more leisurely. They were met last evening upon the arrival of the Islander by Lieut.-Col. Grant, R. E., officer commanding troops on this station, and Flag Lieutenant Backhouse, R. N., and escorted to their hotel.

Included in Lord Seymour's party are Lieut.-Col. C. Wilkinson, R. E., commanding the Royal Engineers in Canada; Capt. A. G. Ferguson, Rifle brigade, aide-de-camp to Lord Seymour; Lady Seymour, Miss Seymour and Miss Pennant.

Lord William Frederick Ernest Seymour was born in 1838, is a brother of the present Marquis of Hertford, and was formerly in the Royal navy, serving in the Baltic in 1854. Later he was in the Coldstream Guards, served in the Crimea in 1856, and became major-general commanding the Southeastern district in England, until he received the present appointment.

BELLE ADAMS TRIAL.

Postponed Till To-day, as the Chief Justice Was Detained on the Mainland.

The trial of Belle Adams for the murder of Charles Kincaid was set down for hearing peremptorily yesterday morning, but it did not come off. There was quite a crowd of people in the court room at 10 o'clock, the hour set, and among the spectators were a number of women, some of them witnesses, others brought by curiosity. The Chief Justice was to have taken the case, but he was detained on the Mainland, the only other judge available being Mr. Justice Martin. It so happened, however, that the last-named judge, having been elevated to the bench since the commission was issued for the special assize, his name was not among the judges to whom the commission was addressed, and, therefore, he could not sit on the case. This brought about a little hitch, and for half and hour the general public waited.

Finally Mr. Justice Martin took his place on the bench, and Mr. F. B. Gregory, counsel for the Crown, stated that the Chief Justice had not arrived, but that section 52 of the Supreme court act and section 673 of the criminal code seemed to provide for the case where a judge was not able to arrive in time for the hour set down for hearing the trial. The sections provided that in such a case the hearing might be laid over till such day as the judge could be present.

Mr. Justice Martin asked Mr. Gregory E. Powell if he had any objection to offer, and that gentleman replied that, while not waiving his client's rights, he could not see that anything but an adjournment could be arrived at under the circumstances.

Mr. Justice Martin remarked that the sections quoted by Mr. Gregory seemed to cover the case fully, and a formal adjournment was not necessary.

This being settled, it was understood that the court meet to-day at 10:30 a. m., when Mr. Justice Irving, who came from the Mainland last night for the purpose, will preside, and the trial will go on.

THE SEAL QUESTION.

Montreal Witness.

Mr. Martin, attorney-general of British Columbia, is undoubtedly right in the position he sets forth in his interview published in the Wijness on Saturday in regard to the Behring sea seal question. The United States should not be able to expect to secure the abandonment by Canada, or rather by the British Empire, of the right of British subjects for all time to pelagic sealing at the mere cost of purchasing the ships and outfits of the Canadian sealers of to-day. Those sealers are entitled to such compensation as individuals from the government of Canada or of Great Britain if these rights to take seals even for a term of years, which would render their outfits valueless, were set aside by a treaty. The rights of these few individuals are not even the rights of one generation of British subjects, and it is obvious that the rights of all generations of British subjects for all time to come would simply be given away were they allowed to be extinguished at the cost to an alien nation, and without other compensation to the Empire than the paltry sum at which the vessels and outfits of to-day could be bought. The British commission should not part with any national right like that of pelagic sealing on the Pacific ocean or in Behring sea, except for a term of years, at the expiry of which a new agreement would be necessary. And the compensation should not consist of any sum of money, but in some concession connected with some other affair, such as the free market of Canadian fish, which, of course, would only be arranged for a term of years. If the Canadian sealers' outfits are to be bought, it will pay the Canadian government to do the buying. It would hardly be in accordance with the dignity of the nation to allow of another nation or its representatives bargaining with Canadian subjects about the price of a national right. The Canadian government must deal with the Behring sea sealing question as a national question, not as a question affecting only a few individuals of to-day. The question is one of the value of the seal fisheries to British subjects for all time, and that value is altogether too great in possibilities to make a bargain possible; only an arrangement for a ten or fifteen year period should be concluded. The question of the future of the salmon fisheries of British Columbia may be affected by the settlement of the sealing question. It is well known that the seals devour and destroy immense numbers of salmon. If the United States government is to be empowered to create a strict seal preserve on the Pacific for its own benefit, it may find it profitable to preserve the seals until the herds become extremely large, and thus become destructive of fish life. It is well known that the seals of the Pribyloff islands, on their way back to the islands from their annual emigration south, return along the coast of British Columbia, feeding upon the fish of those waters. This is one reason—and there are others—why any arrangement should be temporary, so that the effects of the arrangement may be proved by experience.

ANNIVERSARY SOCIAL.

St. Paul's Presbyterian Church Celebrates Its Seventh Year of Growth.

Following the anniversary services last Sunday, came the seventh anniversary social in St. Paul's Presbyterian church last evening, an event that was marked by exceptional interest and pleasure. Last Sunday Rev. Mr. Meikle and Rev. A. B. Winchester presided over the services, but last evening the pastor, Rev. D. MacRae, was at home on the platform. He appeared in a most happy mood, and added much spirit to the programme. The different items on this were as appended: Instrumental, Miss J. Semple; solo, Miss Amy McKenzie; address, Rev. J. C. Forster; solo, Miss G. King; address, Rev. W. L. Clay; solo, Miss Nellie Cutler; address, Mr. D. Fraser; solo, Miss Cutler; address, Rev. A. B. Winchester; solo, Miss F. Fraser; address, Mr. L. Tate; solo, Mr. J. G. Brown; address, Rev. Dr. Campbell; solo, Mr. Cave; address, Rev. Mr. Meikie; solo, Miss Duffy.

THE GOLD OF ATLIN.

So Plentiful That One Season Will Make District More Famous Than Klondike.

Hydraulic Working Will Be Very Profitable – The Country Easy of Access.

Conditions Favor Presence of Quartz and Rich Discoveries Prove the Theory.

(Special to The Colonist.)

Atlin City, B. C., Sept. 20.—The newly discovered gold fields of this neighborhood, in regard to which the Colonist has so far had only brief references, are to-day the most important placer mines in British Columbia, and will next spring be among the leading mines of the world. This is a bold assumption, but it is made by one who has been over the ground thoroughly and is well acquainted with the character of the deposits and of the discoveries that have been made.

It may be cited in opposition that this season's output is too insignificant in amount to bear out such an assumption; but it must be remembered that it is only a few weeks since the discoveries were made, and the consequent development is not considerable. Had the circumstances been similar to those in the Klondike, where nearly a year's work had been done before the news of the discovery reached the outside world, the output from these diggings next summer would probably have caused a sensation equal to that raised by the first arrival of the Klondike gold. The fact is that Atlin is within easy distance of the head of Lynn Canal, and the gold hunters who have come here have for the most part been too busy acquiring claims on all the creeks where discoveries have been made, to develop any one claim. These stampedes to new creeks have been almost daily since the beginning of August, and the result is a wide and richer area opened up and ready to be worked in the spring. Many people here, however—men of extensive mining experience—believe that the mining laws of the Yukon country, which limit a man to one creek claim in each district, is the better method for the government, in that it limits the holdings of the individual and ensures, to a large extent, the actual working of claims, instead of the indiscriminate staking for the purpose of sale.

It is certain that there has been several wild rushes from the development work in progress here for the purpose of securing other locations, but, taking everything into consideration, much actual work has been done since the discoveries were first made.

It was late in July when some twenty to thirty prospectors on Pine creek went to Tagish House to record their claims, in the belief that the new diggings were in Northwest Territory. Captain Strickland, of the mounted police, issued them licenses ,and recorded their claims at 250 feet each.

The news of the strike leaked out and reached Bennett on August 1, and Captain W. J. Rant, who is the British Columbia agent, stipendary magistrate, deputy land commissioner, collector of revenue and gold commissioner, thought the new diggings must be in British Columbia and in his district.

H. H. Edgerton, Jr., a civil engineer and surveyor, of New York, then employed on the Skagway railroad, took observations and gave it as his opinion that the new diggings were twenty-nine miles within the boundaries of British Columbia. There upon Captain Rant chartered the steamer Kilbourne, and accompanied by his son Norman and Colonel Steele, of the mounted police, made a hurried trip to Atlin. He arrived here on August 3, and declared the new gold fields to be within the territory of British Columbia, and on the 5th, having appointed his son Norman W. F. Rant, mining recorder, an office was opened for the issuing of licenses and the recording of claims of 100 feet only, in accordance with the mining laws of British Columbia.

The steamer Nora followed in a day or two with the first load of stampeders, and thereupon the rush was on. Seven hundred men on the Skagway railroad quit work, and a large percentage of the male population of Bennett, Skagway, Dyea and Juneau joined in the stampede to the new diggings. Many also came from Wrangel and the Stikine river.

The first locators have each staked a claim of 250 feet, reserving every ten claims for the government under the Northwest Territory laws. These reserved claims were at once staked in 100 feet claims and some of the 200 feet claims were encroached upon. Whether the first locators will be able to hold their 250 feet, for which they had duly paid and obtained leases from the Northwest Territory officials, or whether they will be cut down to 100 feet, is a question that will probably be left for the Dominion and provincial governments to agree upon. It is hoped that the decision will be in favor of the miners. In the Klondike the first locators each recorded 500 feet instead of 250 feet, and were permitted to hold the 500 feet. This may or may not be accepted as a precedent.

Meanwhile, this misunderstanding has undoubtedly kept many valuable claims idle that would have been worked as long as the weather permitted, but here is the record of activity in staking claims:

The mining recorder opened his office at discovery on Pine creek September 5, with one record book and 200 licenses. These were used up by the evening of the 7th, and 600 mining receipts were obtained to be used as substitute certificates. These were all used up between the 12th and the 20th. The mining recorder again went out for blanks, and returned with 300 on the 26th. These were used up by September 3, and 200 more were obtained, which have also been taken. The fees for these and for recording claims and agreement will be a welcome addition to the British Columbia treasury.

Approximately the number of claims recorded on the several creeks staked before the 15th is as follows:

Pine creek	450
Spruce creek	180
Birch creek	130
Musket creek	130
Ruby creek	80
Otter creek	200
Wright creek	270
Dickenson creek	100
Feather creek	100
Slate creek	100
Bonanza Gulch	30
Rose creek	50
Stevendyke creek	50
Dixey creek	30

Of bench claims there are many more located than creek claims. There at least bench stakes are also plentiful on Spruce; on Birch there are few, but, taken generally, there are probably as many bench claims as creek claims.

In addition to this, four townsites have been located—at the head of Taku Arm, called Taku City; on the east bank of Lake Atlin, called Atlin City; at discovery on Pine, called Pine City; and on Lake Roosawah, or Surprise, as it has been called by those who did not know that it had a distinctive name for several generations.

Then, six water rights have been located; two from the Moose and Elk lakes by Recorder Rant; one from just below Koosawah lake by C. Christopher; one by Mr. Mitchell, of the steamship Tartar, on Pine creek below the canyon; and two from Spruce creek. These locations are made with a view to supplying the new towns with water and electric light, but more particularly for milling and hydraulic purposes.

That there is a large field for hydraulic operations, a study of the ground and the richness of the benches that have been worked abundantly proves. There was little staking of bench claims before Hamlin Garland, the celebrated author and magazinist paid Atlin a visit, and went over the ground with shovel and pan in company with your correspondent. Mr. Garland gave it as his opinion that the district about Atlin was one vast glacier moraine, and he showed by the gravel banks the course and action of the glaciers, and explained how the gold must have been deposited. He held that the streams had nothing to do with the deposits; they were here before the streams, and that the gold found in the streams was merely incidental and washed out of the gravel while they were cutting their channels through it. This he demonstrated by panning and finding colors at most unlikely points, at some distance from the creeks. Therefore, in addition to the large number of bench claims already located, as a result it is expected that during the period between now and the opening of next season large tracts of land will be leased from the government for hydraulic purposes.

One of the great questions, and a very natural one, has been as to where the gold comes from that is distributed over such a vast area, and within the last two or three weeks quartz prospectors have been endeavoring to answer this. Twenty-five quartz claims have already been located, of which possibly one-half are rich enough to induce capital to develop them into mines. There is a body of galena as rich, possibly richer, than the finest to be found in the Slocan; there is a mineralized quartz lead of a width of fifteen feet, and there is said to be a whole mountain of telluride. Specimens of these ores have been sent to Victoria for assay, and there has not yet been time to receive the returns here. At first the rich galena was not much thought of, as there came in the questions of treatment. But with plenty of water power concentrators will be an easy proposition, and the Skagway railroad, which will undoubtedly be induced by the development next spring to run a spur here from its main line, only a few miles away, will do the rest.

All this recording, which, with the recording of partnerships and other documents, will probably foot up to $12,000 in a little over a month, has been done by young Norman W. F. Rant, the recorder, with the aid of two clerks and two mounted policemen for patrolling and the obtaining of direct evidence as to claims that are disputed. Mr. Rant was educated at Leamington, England, and Victoria, and before coming to Bennett was engaged in canning and trading on the Skeena river. There have been some complaints, due to the hurry and lack of time for systemization, and also incidental to the lack of official blanks, and so on; but on the whole Mr. Rant seems to have given entire satisfaction as the mining recorder, which in any case is a difficult office to hold.

No better country for the prospector can be imagined. Kamloops has always carried the palm in this regard with the yellow-legginged English experts, because there you can put your lunch in a buggy and go prospecting. This is also a grass country, but well wooded. Every prospector who comes in next spring may bring his horse, and trust the animal finding his own living and keeping fat on it, if not worked too hard. There is little underbrush, and a man with his horse may cut across country without a trail. The trail from Atlin to Discovery on Pine creek, an easy eight miles, is like a garden path. It is proposed to petition the provincial parliament for a wagon road from Atlin to Lake Roosevah, about eighteen miles, and as nearly enough has already been contributed for the purpose in the moneys received for miners' licenses, there can be no objection to a reasonable appropriation being granted. It is absolutely necessary to the development of the country.

Considering the short time since the discovery was made, the development of the district has been wonderful. A wagon road has taken the place of the trail from Taku City, where the Bennett steamers land, to Atlin Lake, a mile and a half of pleasant wood land line; and from its terminus a regular steamer plies to Atlin City, on the opposite bank of the lake. This has been surveyed and cleared and laid out in streets, and substantial log buildings are taking the places of the tents. A sawmill is daily expected, and as there is a lively call for building lots, lumbering will be a very remunerative business. At present there are two large hotels, five restaurant, half a dozen general stores, two barber shops, and about one hundred tents. Provisions are selling at fair prices, and moose, elk, mountain sheep, grouse and fish is plentiful and cheap. When the rush set in shovels sold at Bennett for $10 each; they are selling here now at very slightly above Skagway prices.

And it speaks well for the country that gold dust has for two weeks been the common medium of exchange. What was the total output until the close of the season it is almost impossible to guess at. One of the clean-ups on discovery, five men working three days with two twenty-foot sluice boxes was over $2,200. Captain Sperry was on a bench claim on Pine creek with two men to dig out and carry in sacks the gravel to his sluice box in the creek, has averaged over $200 per day, and four or five others have gone beyond this figure in their daily clean-up. On Spruce and Birch creek sluice boxes have also been worked for two or three weeks, but in addition to these nearly every man has a sack of dust and nuggets that he has panned to test his claim. One man panned on Spruce creek four ounces in six days; others have panned two ounces in a day. The four locators on the Wright creek discovery came down with $109 they had panned in two days, and they paid for their location papers with a $12 nugget. No nuggets have been found of phenomenal size, but many from $5 to $12. A quartz nugget was recently thrown out of a prospect 1,000 on Pine creek, for they extend a distance on either side of the creek. The Pine, the size and shape of a goose egg, the gold in which is estimated at over $250. It is not an occasional big nugget, or an exceptionally rich pocket of pay dirt, that these diggings have wherewith to attract attention, but the general excellence of every claim that has been prospected. Work will continue as long as the weather permits, which will probably be about a month longer, and then, when the mine owners return to this homes with their dust and nuggets, there will be general surprise that a country so rich should have had so little said about it.

WESTON COYNEY.

Later.—Mr. Blinkinship, one of the locators on Wright creek, arrived here after writing the above, with $400 in gold and nuggets, the result of a few days' work, one nugget weighing $2.90. Mr. Bell, of Skagway, also brought in a handsome quartz nugget from Birch creek.

AMUSEMENTS.

It is a matter of note that Manager Larkin occupies a position as a first-class purveyor of minstrelsy in America, the mother country of this form of amusement. This is due to the fact that he has always applied business methods to his actions. Having always dealt fairly and squarely with the public, and at all times been strictly up-to-date and inventive, it is promised this year that Gorton's minstrels, which is the attraction at the Victoria theatre tomorrow, will be found superior to any previous year. A complete company of "burnt cork" artists will be engaged in the performance, which is of an entirely different nature than any heretofore given. Although of course the main features of minstrelsy are retained, no negroes are employed in its production.

There are a long list of minstrel stars and comedians, headed by that king-bee of burnt cork artists, Hank Goodman.

There is also the Crescent City Quartette, which is one of the finest vocal clubs in this country.

USED DAILY GIVES HEALTH

The daily use of Abbey's Effervescent Salt will keep you in good health. Recommended by medical journals and endorsed by physicians. Sold by druggists everywhere at 60 cents a large bottle. Trial size, 25 cents.

FARMERS' INSTITUTES.

Official Headquarters for Them at the Westminster Fair—A Good Time to Join.

The superintendent of farmers' institutes, Mr. J. R. Anderson, is having a marquee erected on the fair grounds at New Westminster for the official headquarters of officers and members of institutes, and when it is the intention that meetings shall be held for the discussion of institute matters, and arrangements made for institute meetings during the coming autumn and winter. Writing conveniences will be provided for the use of members and farmers generally, all of whom are cordially invited to make use of the accommodation.

Mr. Anderson will be in attendance to give such information as may be needed, and to superintend the arrangements generally. Those who have not yet become members of institutes are invited to take the opportunity of joining. Membership rolls will be provided for each institute, which can be signed on the spot.

To Lieut.-Col. Peters the thanks of the committee are due for the loan of the marquee above mentioned, and for another for the use of the commissioner of the exhibition.

THE FOUNDATION OF HEALTH.

Medical journals endorse and physicians prescribe Abbey's Effervescent Salt. The daily use of this standard English preparation will keep you in good health. All druggists at 60 cents a large bottle. Trial size, 25 cents.

REVELSTOKE RIVER BANK.

Another Urgent Appeal for Action by the Provincial Government.

The following letter relative to river bank protection was read at the last meeting of the Revelstoke board of trade council:

J. M. Kellie, Esq, Revelstoke, B.C.:

Dear Sir:—Mr. Semlin received yours of the 16th on his return from the upper country, and has instructed me to advise you that he has written to Hon. Mr. Martin, attorney-general, now in the East, to try and arrange with the Dominion government for getting the work done at once by the joint action of both governments on as favorable terms for the province as possible.

Yours truly,
C. B. SWORD,
Secretary.

The secretary of the board was instructed to write to the Premier and urge immediate action in the matter, as the mattressing has given way and is no protection whatever; that great inroads are being made in the bank; that now is the most favorable time for doing the work, and if not done before the season advances the work would be greatly hindered by snow and bad weather. The Premier was also requested to put an engineer on the ground at once.

Uncle Hiram—They say that the sun never sets on the British Empire.

Aunt Hannah—Doesn't it, now? And we have such lovely sunsets over here!—Puck.

Raw from Her Toes to Her Knees

DR. CHASE MAKES A WONDERFUL CURE

Mrs. Knight, 17 Hanover Place, Toronto, makes the following statement:—

MY mother, Mrs. Wright, who lives at Norval, near Doncaster, suffered a summer and winter with Eczema in her feet. She could not walk, and very seldom got any sleep. It became so bad that she was perfectly raw from the toes to the knees. After trying every available remedy without receiving any benefit, and almost hopeless of relief, she was advised to try Dr. Chase's Ointment. She has altogether used 8 boxes since commencing, out with the happiest results, for she is now completely cured. There is but one scar on one of her feet, a memento of her fearful suffering condition. Any person desiring further testimony in this case is at liberty to communicate with Mrs. Wright at her address, Norval P.O.

Mrs. Knight says after such a grand success, is it any wonder we recommend Dr. Chase's Ointment?

WILFRID THE UNREADY.

Australian Premiers Blame Him For Delay In Pacific Cable Project.

A Sydney letter to the Toronto Monetary Times says: "The Pacific cable is creating some interest again. In response to addresses from boards of trade, urging action, the Australian premiers are throwing all the blame on the Premier of Canada. They claim that he was the bad boy in the game in London last year. A little more action on their part would do a great deal more than grumbling at Sir Wilfrid Laurier. When Australia is ready to do something more than to pass feeble resolutions, Canada doubtless will be found willing to undertake her reasonable share of the responsibility. The Eastern Extension Telegraph company has a pretty good estimate of the patience of Australia. It has the cable monopoly of the four and a half millions of people, charges them 40 per cent. more than they ought to pay and gets a subsidy besides. When it fears that the Australians really mean to do something towards getting a Pacific cable, it talks smooth things to the governments and people. Just now it is carrying a very high head, evidently thinking not much business is meant in the talk of a rival. It may yet kick so hard as to arouse the placid Australians to action. A conference is at present being held in London that may result in something.

"If the managers of the Eastern Extension company have not muzzled the Australian press, they have pretty effectually silenced it. Not only are low rates given by the company to press messages, but the daily papers have formed a news syndicate, and none outside this syndicate can get press cables. This ensures a monopoly of the daily newspaper publication to those now in the trade. A second cable, especially if it were controlled by the interested governments, might break up this monopoly. It is no wonder, therefore, that the Pacific cable project gets cold encouragement from the press here."

STEEL FOR VICTORIA.

A Large Order Indicating Near By Activity in Ship Building.

A Chicago despatch dated September 18 reads as follows: "Chicago's supremacy as a steel market was demonstrated yesterday when the Scully Steel and Iron company closed a contract for the delivery of 2,500 tons of steel plates at Victoria, B.C., to be used in the construction of five British steamships by one of the largest shipbuilding firms at that point.

"The value of the contract exceeds $100,000, a sum which on its face may not carry the full significance of the deal to those outside of the steel and iron business. When this figure is taken in consideration with the fact that the contract was secured against the competition of the largest steel firms in the country, England and Germany, it tells a story of Chicago enterprise and commercial activity of the characteristic sort.

"The shipment to Victoria will follow closely after a notable performance by the Illinois Steel company. This company has just completed the delivery of 3,000 tons of steel plates at Glasgow, Scotland, at a price per ton which made the total contract worth nearly $1,500,000. While engaged in the delivery of these steel plates, manufactured for shipbuilding purposes, the company was also delivering light "T" rails in Germany."

New Hope For the Dyspeptic.—Dr. Von Stan's Pineapple Tablets are the dyspeptic's haven of rest and cure. They contain no injurious drug or narcotic, won't hurt the most delicate and sensitive stomach, aid digestion, stop fermentation of the food, good for the blood, good for the nerves, good for the brain, make flesh increase, cure the stomach; 35 cents. Sold by Hall & Co., and Dean & Hiscocks.

THE CURATE'S MITE.

I take the following advertisement from the Morning Post:

"A lady is very anxious to collect a few pounds to present, sub rosa, to the wife of one of their curates, who is about to have her fifth baby; their income is pitiful small. Will any sympathizing friends help?

For the sake of the poor lady I should be sorry to say a word in disparagement of this benevolent effort. At the same time I venture to express a hope that such appeals on behalf of curates will not become fashionable, as the result might possibly be an aggravation of the misery which it is sought to alleviate.—London Truth.

Scrofula, hip disease, salt rheum, dyspepsia and other diseases due to impure blood are cured by Hood's Sarsaparilla.

ESQUIMALT ELECTION CASE.

Application of Petitioner In Jardine vs. Bullen For a Case Stated On Part of Charges Refused.

Yesterday Mr. Justice Martin dismissed, with costs, an application on behalf of petitioners in Jardine et al. vs. W. F. Bullen, to state a special case on a portion only of the charges alleged in the Esquimalt election petition. As the law now stands, there is no provision for a recount of the votes, and consequently an application was made to have the portion of the charges alleging improper reception of votes by the returning officer made a case stated. Mr. Justice Martin gave his reasons as follows for refusing the application, with costs:

This is an application by the petitioners under the Provincial Elections act, R. S. B. C., cap. 67, sec. 231, sub-sec. 8, for the court to state a special case. The application, as stated in the summons and made by Mr. Duff, is not that the whole case raised by the petition be stated, but that a portion of the case raised be so stated, that portion of it which complains of the actions of the returning officer; and if the application is successful, the effect of it is to obtain a recount. It is objected, on behalf of the respondent, that the court is not empowered under the section to do otherwise than state the whole case. The case raised by the petition embraces, roughly, three groups of charges or grounds of complaint: (1) Improper reception or rejection of votes by the returning officer; (2) bribery, personation and corrupt practices generally, on behalf of the respondent, by agents; (3) bribery and corrupt practices by the respondent personally. If the case be stated, the section provides, in its last paragraph, that "the decision of the court shall be final, and the court shall certify to the speaker its determination in reference to such special case." With every disposition to give a wide construction to this clause of the election act, particularly in view of the fact that such act contains no provision for a recount before a judge, it would appear that the words, "the case raised," taken in conjunction with the paragraph last quoted, contemplate the final disposal of the whole case raised, and not a disposal of a portion of it at one time, and the later disposal, or perhaps not a disposal at all, of its other portions. Holding this view, the application must be refused, with costs to the respondent in any event.

Mr. L. P. Duff for petitioners; Mr. Gordon Hunter for respondent.

No one knows better than those who have used Carter's Little Liver Pills what relief they have given when taken for dyspepsia, dizziness, pain in the side, constipation and disordered stomach. *

Their gentle action and good effect on the system really make them a perfect little pill. They please those who use them. Carter's Little Liver Pills may well be termed "Perfection." *

Rugby.—The season of Victoria Rugby Football club opens next Saturday, the 8th inst., with a general practice at the Caledonia grounds, when all old members and those intending joining are requested to be on hand. The grounds will be open for practice each Tuesday and Thursday, and as there are a great many new players this year those hoping to get on the teams had better turn out as often as possible, as the championship matches begin early in November, and the time is all too short to get into good trim. The following scratch team journeys down to Esquimalt to-morrow afternoon to meet a team from the flagship: Scholefield, Gamble, H. Gillespie, A. Gillespie, Sugrue, Langley, Austin, O'Brien, Johnston, Crease, Goward, Pemberton, Phillips, Smedley, A. N. Other. The game will start at 4:30 sharp. Players are earnestly requested to catch the 4 o'clock car from Campbell's corner.

The People's Faith

Firmly Grounded Upon Real Merit—They Know Hood's Sarsaparilla Absolutely and Permanently Cures When All Others Fail.

Hood's Sarsaparilla is not merely a simple preparation of Sarsaparilla, Dock, Stillingia and a little Iodide of Potassium. Besides these excellent alteratives, it also contains those great anti-bilious and liver remedies, Mandrake and Dandelion. It also contains those great kidney remedies, Uva Ursi, Juniper Berries, and Pipsissewa.

Nor are these all. Other very valuable curative agents are harmoniously combined in Hood's Sarsaparilla and it is carefully prepared under the personal supervision of a regularly educated pharmacist.

Knowing these facts, is the abiding faith the people have in Hood's Sarsaparilla a matter of surprise? You can see why Hood's Sarsaparilla cures, when other medicines totally, absolutely fail.

Hood's Sarsaparilla

Is the best—in fact the One True Blood Purifier. Sold by all druggists. $1; six for $5.

Hood's Pills are the best after-dinner pills, aid digestion. 25c

ARE YOU

Troubled with pains in the small of your back, pains up each side of back bone to lower points of shoulder-blade every now and then? Have you head pains, left or right side? Have you a dizzy feeling or sensation, floating flicks or dots before the gaze? Do you feel melancholy? Are you nervous? Have you over-worked? Have over-eaten? Have you over-exhausted your mind or body? Have you abused nature or yourself? If you have you must get cured as soon as possible. What will cure you?

HUDYAN

Will cure you. Hudyan is certain to cure you. It has cured others—it will cure you Consult Hudyan doctors free, or write for

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IS IT IN YOUR BLOOD?
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First, secondary or tertiary forms of blood disorders are manifested by copper-colored spots and falling hair. Thirty-day cure is certain.

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NOTICE.

George A. Pritchett, Deceased.

Pursuant to the Trustee's and Executor's Act, notice is hereby given that creditors and other persons having any claims or demands upon or against the estate of George A. Pritchett, late of Glenora, Cassiar, B. C., who died on the 7th September, 1898, administration of whose estate and effects was granted to James Porter, of Telegraph Creek, Cassiar, and Duncan McKinnon, of Wrangel, Alaska, by the will of the said George A. Pritchett (deceased), dated the twenty-seventh day of June, 1895, at Wrangel, Alaska, are hereby required to send in writing the particulars of their claims and demands to the said James Porter and Duncan McKinnon, at their residences aforesaid, on or before the 1st day of November, 1898. And notice is hereby given that, at the expiration of the above mentioned day, the said James Porter and Duncan McKinnon will proceed to distribute the assets of the said George A. Pritchett amongst the parties entitled thereto, having regard to the claims of which the said James Porter and Duncan McKinnon have then had notice, and the said James Porter and Duncan McKinnon will not be liable for the assets or any part thereof so distributed to any person of whose claim the said James Porter and Duncan McKinnon have had no notice at the time of the distribution.

Dated this 22nd day of September, 1898.

(Signed) JAMES PORTER.
(Signed) DUNCAN M'KINNON,
Administrators of the Estate.

Date of first publication, Sept. 28, 1898.

B. C. STEAM DYE WORKS.

141 Yates Street, Victoria.

Ladies' and gent's garments and household furnishings cleaned, dyed or pressed equal to new. sc10-dy&w