

POPLAR CREEK.

There is a growing conviction among the well informed that the recent gold discoveries in the neighborhood of Poplar Creek, Lardeau, have the makings of a big free gold camp. Much of the ore discovered is fabulously rich and very few of the ledges are barren. The veins, while not large, are well formed and traceable for considerable distances along the outcrops. The surrounding country appears free from geological disturbances that might be considered as detrimental in their nature. The camp is, of course, undeveloped, except for a few prospect holes, but enough rich ore has been exposed to justify extensive development without further delay. It is fortunate that Poplar Creek was discovered early in the present season. There are still several months of good weather ahead of prospectors in that region before winter sets in, so that much work of an exploratory nature will be done this year. By next November we should have a very fair idea of the merits of the new camp.

The new Lardeau railway was built none too soon. Passing as it does in close proximity to Poplar Creek, it will be found a great convenience in getting in supplies and machinery. There is every indication at this writing that the road will be kept busy from now on with Poplar Creek traffic.

It is reasonable to expect that these recent discoveries will be an important factor in the revival of prospecting in the Kootenays, and it is to be hoped that such will be the case. There is no better prospecting field the world over than right here in Southern British Columbia. The "Miner" conscientiously believes that this broad section contains many undiscovered camps just as rich as Rossland, the Slocan, Boundaries, Ymir and Poplar Creek. All that is needed to prove their existence is systematic and intelligent exploration.

STAY BY THE STUFF.

If you desire to find the successful prospector or miner, go over this or any other camp and search out the man who believes in staying by the stuff. If you have a prospect for sale and can show ore, the placing of the proposition will not be difficult. But if you tell a mining man that you believe with such much tunneling or crosscutting you will have ore, he will tell you to go ahead and demonstrate your theory, and if you win out then he will step in and do business. Mining men who are mining men have to be shown. The prospector can not afford to leave his ore, the one source of the property's wealth.

Stay by the stuff! Hire competent men. Competent men know why mining companies have failed and why they have succeeded. Your company should succeed. It is to your credit. Stay by the stuff!

A PERNICIOUS PRACTICE.

There is bitter complaint made in Rossland, as in other places in this province, against the pernicious practice which so largely obtains of sending to eastern department stores for goods that can be secured locally, to as great or greater advantage. Any person who closely analyses this stupid fashion must confess to a feeling of surprise that it should prevail as it does. Those who do their shopping in this way are deceiving themselves if they fancy they gain anything by it in the long run. A nine cases out of ten they would get better value for their money by patronizing the merchants of the town. In the other few cases, where a profit of a few cents is to be made by sending the cash east, there is an indirect damage done to the town that far more than counterbalances the small amount of gain. So even putting the matter on the lowest ground, the person who gives the local merchants the go-by to help enrich some eastern "sweatshop" dealer is playing a very poor game.

But the desire to save a few cents on a purchase is not always the ruling motive. In a great many cases the resort to the eastern establishment is merely a fad, which one person must needs follow because some neighbor shows the way. There is perhaps little utility in attempting to reason with people who have been so completely deluged with the gift of intelligence that they cannot see where to go without a leader. There is also the old and oft-quoted circumstance that "far off fields look green." Incredible though it might seem, many people prefer the eastern goods for no other reason than that they come from a distance. When this fancy is followed to the extent of paying a higher price for an article of poorer quality—as is very frequently the case—it becomes a rather expensive luxury.

Even if there were a small advantage to be reaped from patronizing the eastern house, the man or woman imbued with local pride and patriotism to the proper degree would choose to forego it and make the small sacrifice of a few cents for the sake of building up the town. The financial strength of the community is affected by every purchase that is made elsewhere. When such purchases amount to hundreds in a season the aggregate is considerable.

Let every person in Rossland do all his or her marketing at home and the difference would be appreciable in the course of a year. The people who now adopt the other course would do themselves quite as much good as their neighbors if they would only reform. Let them think a little and they will perhaps be able to see that they are now cheating themselves and robbing the whole community.

ONE BRITON WHO IS UNAFRAID.

A British manufacturer, who has been traveling in America, Mr. James Weir, head of the engineering firm of G. & J. Weir, Limited, Holm Foundry, Cathcart, near Glasgow, is very evidently not one of those who are afraid that Britain is going to lose her commercial supremacy, or who believes that the American is of necessity superior in cleverness or business methods to his British rival. He is now in Canada. In an interview he is quoted as saying that in Britain every one is busy. His firm have just spent about one million dollars in enlargements and improvements, and in spite of this, they are taxed to the utmost to complete orders. He does not fear the competition of the world, but thinks Chamberlain's plan can be used as a club for the nations which persist in putting tariff walls up against Britain.

When asked about American competition against Britain, Mr. Weir said it did not amount to a row of pins. His own firm were leaders in pumping machinery, and what is known as auxiliary machinery for ships and other large plants. They beat American firms in all parts of the world. In many cases American machinery was being thrown out as old iron, and was being replaced by British-made machinery. His firm were now engaged on work for yachts of American gentlemen, who frankly admitted that they preferred to pay the 45 per cent duty levied on British machinery, which for the purpose required was superior to American. Many similar orders for the very best machinery for America were placed in Britain. It is very evident that Mr. Weir at least is not worrying over approaching ruin, either personal or national, from American competition. British enterprise, British courage, and British skill and thoroughness can make a fight for trade that will take a mortal lot of smartness in any nation to beat.

POORLY PAID SCIENTISTS.

Writing to the Engineering and Mining Journal, P. Kirkegard, of the Deloro mines, Ontario, pays a well merited tribute to the Geological Survey of Canada. After pointing to the value of the work done by its members he makes this reference to the small rate of remuneration which they enjoy: "Another fact which proves that the work of the geologist is valued for its economic character is that our most efficient government officials are constantly being enticed away by private companies, who offer much higher remuneration. One may well ask this question: Why is it that the government—considering it as a board of directors acting for and responsible to the people of the country, the owners of the assets and the stockholders directly interested—persistently refuse to recognize the value of highly skilled professional men's service, when private corporations only representing the interest of a comparative few find it true economy and to the best interests of their stockholders to pay these men adequate salaries? Instances of this are seen in the case of Mr. J. B. Tyrell, now in the Klondike, and Mr. McEvoy, with the Crow's Nest Coal company."

The Journal offers these comments on the view advanced by Mr. Kirkegard: "Emphasis is given to this view when we have to confess that one aspect of the case which Mr. Kirkegard regrets at Quebec is paralleled at Washington, namely, that the members of the national surveys and those who might desire to join them are frequently taken away from scientific pursuits by corporations, which offer much higher salaries. It is a thousand pities that governments cannot act after the manner of corporations, and exhibit an adequate recognition of the value of good service. We are aware, of course, that when a scientific or technical man has one eye on his duty and another on an increase of salary, he is scarcely the single-minded seeker after truth who is likely to do the best scientific work. Pot-hunting in sport and salary-chasing in technical science are equally subversive of character and, in the end, of results. It is unfortunate that the dedication of a life to the disinterested scientific research which benefits a whole community should so often require a man to attain old age almost in poverty; it is equally regretful, on the other hand, that fine capacities should become debauched by huge salaries, stimulating the lust for that money which represents the brute power of the modern world. There should be a median line between these extremes—extremes which we see illustrated daily in the respective scientific and industrial departments of human activity. Civilization has progressed but blindly unless it appreciates the advisability of recognizing in a more practical

way the services of the men to whom, after all it owes the rise of its many storied structures from the swamp of savagery."

The Engineering and Mining Journal makes a curious blunder when it locates the capital of the Dominion at Quebec. Otherwise its philosophizing is entirely acceptable.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

By making people irritable, the heat itself is often able to create coolness between friends.

That some men have greater ability than others is a fact of nature which no human law or custom can overcome.

Don't worry if you meet opposition when you suggest improvements. No improvement was ever made that was not opposed by some one.

The property in radium which gives forth light is said to be helium. We should have thought that it would give heat.

Mr. Schwab's retirement from the head of the U. S. Steel trust proves that even a self-made man finished by Andrew Carnegie cannot long defy the laws of nature and of high finance.

Hot winds have been prevailing throughout the coast district of B. C., and this with "Joe" Martin not saying a word. Naturally, the weather prophets of the vicinity are puzzled.

The fact remains that John L. Retailack deserves, after his attempts to boom the Slocan and the silver-lead industry of British Columbia, something better than the Liberal nomination for the Kaslo district in the forthcoming elections.

Viewed from every standpoint, the fact remains that not enough provision was made for cheap transportation rates over the Grand Trunk Pacific. The railway company has too much to say on this all-important question and the business men of British Columbia and the Northwest Territories too little.

It is highly gratifying to know that everything is working smoothly in Britain's new colonies in South Africa. The Imperial government is doing its best to promote prosperity and there is greater evidence of industry and thrift than was ever seen there before. The absolute freedom enjoyed under the British flag is appreciated.

"It is beginning to appear," says the Toronto Mail & Empire, "that in the designing and navigating of small yachts Uncle Sam is not at present in Canada's class." Eight times we have now defeated American challengers for the American cup offered for the 22-footers. The contest for the yachting trophy of the Seawanhaka-Corinthian Club of New York has grown steadily in international interest. Since it fell into Canadian hands increasing efforts have been put forward to regain it, but without avail.

The party of violence has never obtained anything for Ireland except hard usage. It has delayed, half a century at least, the advancement of the Irish cause, because it furnished apparent proof to parliament that the Irish people are unfit for self-government and that greater liberty would entail unlimited license and a reign of crime and bloodshed.

The New York Sun expresses the opinion that the American farmers who have lately flocked into our western territories will reinforce the general protection sentiment of the country. Although as agriculturists and consumers they had, while citizens of the United States, a strong class interest in cheap goods, and though at times free trade ideas made more or less headway amongst them, they were all pretty well converted to protectionism before they started for Canada. They will, therefore, not take it amiss if they find that policy prevailing here. The Sun, which is treating us very well these days, does not hint that they will be other than very good Canadian citizens.

The London Daily Telegraph is publishing a series of articles on "Imperial Reciprocity" by a writer who very ably upholds Mr. Chamberlain's ideas of a preferential tariff for Britain. He takes the ground that as the manufacturers of the States and Germany are so rapidly gaining on British manufacturers both in foreign countries and in the home market, it will be necessary for Britain if she wishes to retain her position to take steps by means of mutual preferential tariffs to secure to herself the colonial markets, where alone she is holding her own against these active competitors. The whole question promises to be very thoroughly discussed in the campaign which seems to be approaching in Britain.

British Columbia, particularly the northeastern portion, is known to be rich in mica. There are enormous deposits of this useful and valuable material

near the headwaters of the Fraser river and in the Peace river country. It is said to be of very high quality. A fair grade of mica is worth \$750 per ton. At this figure there is no great need to wait for railways in order that mica mining may flourish in this province. In Brazil, where transportation facilities are wanting and the mining methods most antiquated, the cost of mining and packing mica for market and transportation to the nearest railway is estimated at \$250 per ton. Freight taxes and other expenses amount to another \$70, which, however, still leaves a satisfactory margin of profit on the market price of \$750.

The text of the agreement between the Liberal government and the G. T. P. shows that the Grand Trunk is not limited to guaranteeing bonds for one-quarter of the cost of the western division. The government is to guarantee for three-quarters of the cost up to \$13,000 per mile on the prairie section and \$30,000 per mile on the mountain section, and the Grand Trunk is to guarantee "the balance required for the construction of the same western division." So that if the G. T. P. promoters can figure out their cost at more than \$17,333 per mile on the prairie section, for example, they can get the government to guarantee \$13,000 and the Grand Trunk the balance, which may be much greater than one-quarter of the whole. Under these conditions it is practically certain the promoters will make their cost run up to the full amount of their bonding powers, or \$20,000 per mile on the prairie section, and when they add to this the \$26,666 per mile of capital stock the fixed charges against the prairie section will be upon \$46,666 per mile.

Conservatives on both sides of the Atlantic desire to see Mr. Chamberlain's preferential policy win out. Its adoption means a distinct and direct benefit to Canada, a closer union of the Empire, and increased prosperity for everybody living under the British flag.

The Brooklyn, N. Y., attorney who ran a domestic menage in three cities and so successfully that each of his wives maintains he was an ideal husband and father, might be prevailed upon to part with his secret to some benedict who find it difficult to live peaceably with one wife.

Even the haughty barber who holds the heads, if not the destinies of men, in his hands, has troubles of his own. A member of the tonsorial profession in Indiana was called to account by a local union for massaging the scalp of a customer after regular business hours, and when he pleaded in extenuation that massage and "barbing" were two different things and could not properly be classified under the one head, so to speak, he was promptly arrested by the local authorities of the town and fined twenty-five dollars for practicing medicine without a license.

THE HURRICANE'S WORK.

Lives Were Lost and Much Property Destroyed.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 11.—The state department today received a dispatch from Consul Jewell, at Fort de France, Martinique, dated yesterday, confirming the press reports of the disastrous cyclone in that island. The dispatch says: "A terrific cyclone visited the entire island at midnight Saturday. Great damage to crops and fruit. Many houses unroofed. Trees two feet thick uprooted. One man killed. Consulate intact. At Trinité seven were killed. Many houses destroyed. Smaller towns damaged. New village of Tivoli La Haye, Fournels and Reculee destroyed, rendering five thousand sufferers by last year's catastrophes again homeless. Reports from interior of island indefinite. Great discouragement."

IRISH LAND BILL

Passed the Third Reading in the House of Lords.

LONDON, Aug. 11.—The house of lords today passed the third reading of the Irish land bill.

Prior to the third reading of the bill the Duke of Devonshire said while he was unable to forecast the action of the house of commons on the landlords' amendments adopted by the house of lords he was confident that the position of the government in the lower house would not be altogether irreconcilable.

Lord Abercorn, on behalf of the landlords, thanked the duke for his courteous reception of the amendments and said he believed the bill would be of benefit to the whole of Ireland. He trusted that the amendments would be received by the house of commons in the same spirit as they had been by the lords.

WELSH COAL CASE.

English Appeal Court Gives Judgment in Favor of Owners.

LONDON, Aug. 11.—The appeal court by a majority of 2 to 1 reversed the decision of Justice Bingham, who on August 3rd, 1902, in a case where the Welsh coal owners' association sued the miners' federation for \$500,000 damages for ordering stop days without consulting the owners, decided in favor of the defendants on the ground that there was no malice in the action of the men, who believed that a reduction of the output would benefit both parties. The question was referred back to Justice Bingham.

NEWS FROM THE EAST

Mr. Blair States His Objections to the Grand Trunk Scheme.

Finances of the Intercolonial Show an Improvement.

OTTAWA, Aug. 11.—Mr. Blair spoke in the house this morning on the resolutions for the building of the national transcontinental railway. He severely criticized the measure, and said that it was undertaken with undue haste. At the start he denied that Sir Wilfrid Laurier asked him to remain quietly in the government while at the same time feeling hostile to the railway policy. That was not true.

Mr. Blair said he favored a national line, but the one proposed was not such. He said the premier stated that they could not wait. He (Blair) asked if Senator Cox would not wait. If parliament did not want to wait the country did. The work, in the opinion of Mr. Blair, was a case of hysteria, as he would not say that any of his colleagues were actuated by other than worthy motives.

Mr. Blair then took up the premier's statement about the road being necessary in case of the abrogation of the bonding privileges. That was not so. Canada had already two roads, one a government line, which left it independent of the bonding privileges. But the United States government knew the bonding privilege was just as beneficial to them as to Canada. He characterized this as a frenzied appeal to the people because no better argument could be found. He was loth to declare that the people of Canada were at the mercy of the United States. He declared that the contract had to be adopted in full or rejected. He said there was no cry for a transcontinental railway from British Columbia or any other provinces. He ridiculed the idea of other lines being able to utilize the government section. The government ought to own and operate it.

It was learned at the department of railways that the earnings of the intercolonial railway for the fiscal year ending June 30 last were \$6,234,837 and the working expenses \$6,196,150, leaving a surplus of \$38,687. This is even better than was predicted. In 1898 the receipts were \$2,759,800. The receipts in the year 1901-02 were \$5,371,385, or \$26,522 greater than the working expenses.

A. F. Low left yesterday for Halifax to take charge of the expedition which starts from there on the 15th inst for Hudson's Bay.

At a cabinet meeting on Saturday Chief Justice Killam of Manitoba was appointed to the supreme court of Canada in place of Justice Armour. The appointment has been well received here. Justice Dubeau, of the court of King's bench, Manitoba, has been promoted to the chief justiceship of the province.

The Grand Trunk Pacific charter was read in the house today. Sir Wilfrid Laurier said that the government policy was that the bill would be taken up and the discussion continued until exhausted.

GALT, Aug. 11.—John Hallock, 55 years old, was crushed to death this morning while at work in the molding shop of Goldie and McCullough, a side of iron chills falling on him.

DUTTON, Ont., Aug. 11.—Frank Raison, a farm laborer, was found dead at the foot of a ladder leading to the loft of a barn on the farm of R. G. Garbutt this morning. He is supposed to have missed his footing while descending and fell, his head striking the floor, cracking his skull.

GUELPH, Aug. 11.—Ann Hune, six years old, was shot and instantly killed by her brother, twelve years old, yesterday, who accidentally discharged a shotgun.

MONTREAL, Aug. 11.—Senator Cox today resigned the vice-presidency of the Dominion Iron and Steel company. It is expected that this will be the only change in the company as a result of the dissolution of the leases with the coal company.

IMMIGRATION RESTRICTION.

Report of the British Royal Commission Made Public.

LONDON, Aug. 11.—The report of the royal commission on alien immigration was issued today. It recommends that the immigration of certain classes of aliens into the United Kingdom be subject to state contract, and proposes a number of regulations and the establishment of a department of good immigration.

The specific recommendations made in the report are similar to the provisions of the United States law, except that no educational requirements are proposed. In some directions the regulations are more stringent than the American regulations. Provisions are made for the deportation of immigrants who may grow to be undesirable within two years after they land, and the vessels importing them will be compelled to repatriate them without compensation. The proposed medical inspection is similar to that in the United States. The penalty for supplying false data to the

immigration inspector is deportation. The immigration department may specify certain over-populated areas as prohibited territory for fresh immigrants. In case of the conviction of an immigrant for felony or misdemeanor the court may include deportation as part of the sentence.

ST. LAWRENCE WORK

TRIBUNAL HEARS CANADA'S PETITION FOR CONSTRUCTION OF A DAM.

THE PROPOSED WORK OBJECTED TO BY THE OWNER OF AN ISLAND.

OGDENSBURG, N. Y., Aug. 11.—By order of the United States government the official engineers in this district held a public hearing today to ascertain whether the construction of a dam across the channel between Adams and Galoupe islands will materially affect the level of Lake Ontario or the rights of citizens of the United States.

The Canadian government has constructed a new channel to the head of St. Lawrence rapids, and finding that strong cross currents interfered with traffic in the channels by forcing many vessels aground, has petitioned the United States government for leave to construct a dam three hundred feet long at low level to obviate the difficulty.

A. W. Fraser, king's counsel for the Canadian government, T. S. Rubidge, superintendent of the Canadian canals, and his assistant, A. L. Kellay of Ottawa, J. C. Quinton, assistant engineer, of Oswego, Senator M. R. Maury, representing the George Hall company and other representatives of American farmers appeared in favor of the plan. It was opposed by Alban Dawson, owner of Galoupe island, who claimed that the erection of the dam would raise the water level three feet, causing a strong current, and also that the water would overflow about sixty acres of the island. Mr. Dawson filed an objection to further proceedings before Major Bingham. He will also contest the constitutionality of the act of congress placing the consent or rejection of permission to construct the dam with the secretary of war.

THE IRISH VISIT.

Honors Conferred by the King on a Large Number of Men.

LONDON, Aug. 11.—A large number of promotions and appointments to the Royal Victorian order in connection with the king's visit to Ireland are gazetted today. They include Lord Londonderry and Lord Dudley as Knights Grand Cross, and Lord Charles Beresford, Right Honorable Horace Curzon Plunkett, Sir Anthony Patrick McDonnell and a number of Irish officials as knights commander. Thirty-seven officers of the army, navy, Irish constabulary and police are made commanders or members of fourth or fifth class of the Royal Victorian order.

SECRETARY ROOT.

His Resignation to be Left in the Hands of the President.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 11.—Before United States Secretary of War Root sails for London to sit with the Alaskan commission he will place his resignation in the hands of President Roosevelt in order that the president may appoint a secretary of war, if it is deemed necessary, during Mr. Root's absence. It is expected, however, that the resignation will not be acted upon until after congress meets. The appointment of Mr. Root's successor will depend somewhat upon the length of time that Secretary Root will be engaged upon the Alaskan boundary commission.

A STEAMER'S MISHAP.

Struck a Rock While Going Through Belle Isle Strait.

ST. JOHNS, Nfld., Aug. 11.—The British steamer Homeles, Montreal for Fleetwood, which went ashore at Point Riche, Belle Isle Strait, on August 7th, arrived today for repairs. She was floated off the rocks at high tide last Saturday with the aid of the British warship Fantome, and arrived here under her own steam. Divers say that there is no hole in her bottom, but that she is badly indented where she struck on the ledge and is leaking considerably.

ELECTRICAL COMBINES.

BERLIN, Aug. 11.—A statement is published here today, evidently from information given by Privy Councillor Rihenaub, managing director of the Allgemeine Elektrizitaets company, regarding the object of his forthcoming visit to the United States. According to the statement he will conduct negotiations for the delimitations of the spheres of interest of the Allgemeine Elektrizitaets company and the General Electric company in neutral countries, thus averting competition.

A SMALL SALMON PACK.

SEATTLE, Aug. 11.—With only 97,750 cases of sockeye salmon on the sound and indications pointing to an early close of the season, there is every reason to fear that the salmon pack this year will be a practical failure. This is the opinion of Charles Corby, manager of the Pacific Shipping company. The pack of less than 98,000 cases this year shows a shortage of almost 125,000 as compared with the catch last year at this time.

YELLOW JACK IN MEXICO.

ORIZABA, Aug. 11.—The yellow fever is increasing in the surrounding villages.

MEXICO CITY, Aug. 11.—The yellow fever is abating in Merida, Yucatan, and fears of an epidemic are diminishing.