

The Colonist.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 24, 1899.

OUR VISITORS.

Our visitors start for home this morning. On their way they will pass through a very interesting and exceedingly valuable part of the province. It will help them somewhat the better to appreciate the possible future of Vancouver Island when we tell them that there are several places on it which present a more promising outlook from the mining point of view than Rossland did six years ago.

The enormous and highly valuable coal deposits on the island are, as our visitors doubtless know already, utilized very largely, and the production and export of coal is one of the greatest sources of our prosperity.

Our visitors when they leave Victoria will go home by way of Kootenay. They will see a splendid country there, but they will also be impressed with the fact that, excellent as is the service of the Canadian Pacific railway, it is a long way round from Victoria to Rossland.

Our visitors must not go home with the thought along the C. P. R. and a portion of Kootenay, they have seen anything like the whole of British Columbia. They will do well to remember that years ago, when those who knew best about this province used to tell the world what a future there was before it, they did not think of Kootenay at all.

The trade of Canada for the fiscal year ending June 30 shows a splendid increase over last year and a really magnificent total for a country of not more than five millions of people.

It is also important, to persons who influence public opinion, that they should bear in mind that it pays the government of Canada well and directly to open British Columbia by railways. The people of this province contribute to the revenue of Canada nearly \$20 per head per annum.

From the standpoint of an investment, it will pay the government well to aid in railway construction in this province. There is not a portion of this province that is not worth opening by railways. As for Kootenay, which our visitors will see in the course of a few days, it is hardly necessary to say anything. The best description of its splendid progress and future promise would fall so far below the reality that it is best to let them see for themselves and form their opinions.

THE GOVERNMENT'S POSITION.

A few days ago the Times was at some trouble to explain for the benefit of the Colonist that the government had a majority of one, and that Sir Henri Joli de Lotbiniere had carried on the government of Quebec under similar conditions.

But since the Times took this position Mr. Macpherson has permitted the public to know that he has withdrawn his support, and Mr. Martin, with whom that gentleman is understood to be in full sympathy, declares that his colleague from Vancouver has gone over to opposition.

We think that even the strongest supporters of the government will admit that we have presented above a very moderate statement of the situation. It may perhaps suit their wishes that in the face of such a condition Mr. Semlin and his colleagues should continue to administer the affairs of the province, but Mr. Semlin himself ought to take another view.

THE TRADE OF CANADA.

The trade of Canada for the fiscal year ending June 30 shows a splendid increase over last year and a really magnificent total for a country of not more than five millions of people.

It is utterly impossible to form any conclusion from the relations of the totals of exports and imports. They do not represent even the actual value of business done. Thus we sent away a \$158,875,908 worth of merchandise—that is to say, this is the amount at which the merchandise was valued for the purposes of export.

to mean the first cost of the goods, but it does not include the cost of transportation to the shipping points and the other charges incidental to handling them. When the goods are sold abroad they realize enough to cover these charges and give the shipper a profit.

It is a mistake to suppose that imports represent exports. They do so to a certain degree, but to a very small extent. We pay our public and private interest abroad out of the sales of our exports, and when we borrow money we rarely get actual specie, but only goods.

The great encouragement from the trade returns is found in the increase of nearly \$15,000,000 over last year. An expanding commerce is the most healthy sign a country can show. Presumably all transactions are done at a profit. If they were not they would not be done at all.

MR. SEMLIN'S DUTY.

The Colonist has always looked upon Mr. Semlin as a gentleman of honorable instincts and patriotic, it sometimes mistakes, views. It submits to him in all candor and sincerity if it is not his plain duty to hand his resignation to the Lieutenant-Governor.

OUR VISITORS.

Victoria is very glad to see the representatives of the Eastern newspapers, and is sorry that it has not more reasonable weather to offer them. We know how prone people are to apologize for the weather, but it is true nevertheless that we rarely have such an August as the present one.

The Japanese government has adopted very stringent regulations regarding religion in that country. This is the first evidence of an official character of the spirit of reaction, which has lately manifested itself in that country.

The committee in charge of the exhibition for the Paris exposition have been busy boxing and shipping the ore specimens. Two or three specimens from all the leading properties in the camps about the mouth of the Copper River.

At a meeting of the Presbyterian congregation last evening it was decided to build a church costing about \$2,000, the lots for which have already been secured in a very central location.

At West Bridge, where a large number of prospectors are camped, some are going up the river and some are staying at West Fork. While the party were there they heard of a big strike of quartz, carrying white pyrites, on Cranberry creek, and another on Boomerang creek, on the West Fork, the latter being a high white quartz, carrying iron pyrites and galena.

Both the West Fork and the main river are experiencing a boom, and another year, Mr. Keith says, will put these two places among the rich mineral camps of the Boundary country. James Wilkes, organizer in British Columbia, has arrived in Greenwood for the purpose of organizing the miners of the mining camps in Boundary. There already exist a number of unions in the mines, and Mr. Wilkes is confident of organizing strong unions.

Another party of shareholders interested in the Knox Hill and Old Ironsides, Greenwood, arrived to-day in Phoenix. The party consists of J. P. Graves, managing director; J. F. Whitney, secretary; and the Whitney Glass Works, Pennsylvania, and of the City of Paris Mining Co., White's camp; W. E. Nelson, representative of A. L. White & Co. in Pennsylvania; Clyde Graves, son of the managing director; and Rev. Brian C. Roberts, tutor to Clyde Graves.

Very many unpleasant reports come from the Yukon touching upon the administration of affairs there. If we do not give currency to them, it is not because they are not numerous and apparently trustworthy.

There has been an unusual amount of rain in the Boundary district. It is understood that the experience of the old residents there has never been any thing like it at this time of year, which more than a year ago warned the government that such reports were coming out, and asked for investigation.

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PROVINCIAL NEWS.

GREENWOOD.

Greenwood, Aug. 17.—W. S. Keith, of Keith & Ketchum, has returned from Copper creek on the main fork of the Kettle river, with J. Edward Locke and Ronald Harris, M. E., who went up together to examine properties. They report the country looking good, and a large number of prospectors are on the trail going up the river to the new falls between the main fork and the West Fork.

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One Week Only. 200 BOYS' SUITS HALF PRICE FOR CASH. B. WILLIAMS & CO. 97 JOHNSON ST.

SOME SNAP SHOTS. Dixie H. Ross & Co. Pint Fruit Jars, Half Gallon Fruit Jars, Quart Fruit Jars.

The Prejudice Against Prepared Paint. THE SHERWIN-WILLIAMS PAINTS. FOR SALE BY P. McQUADRIE & SON.

substantial business blocks, including several brick structures. W. A. Campbell and John McGregor, representatives of Eastern capital, it is understood have secured from Wood & Galloway, the townsite owners, an option on the Boundary Falls water power, and the franchise for the electric lighting of the city, and state that they propose to install a plant as soon as it can be obtained from the manufacturers.

Suffered More THAN I CAN TELL. DR - CHASE'S - OINTMENT. From Calgary, N. W. T. comes this record of a remarkable cure of itching piles.

THE COLONIST P. & P. CO., LTD. VICTORIA, B.C. NOTICE—Thirty days from date I, W. J. Harris, agent for the English Canadian Company, Ltd., intend to apply to the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works for permission to purchase 100 acres of land, situated on the South Fork of Granite Creek, Barclay District, commencing at a post about 21 chains south of the Forks of Granite Creek, thence east 40 chains, thence north 40 chains, thence west 40 chains, thence south 40 chains to place of commencement. W. J. Harris, Agent, English Canadian Company, Ltd., Aug. 12th, 1899.

To Study the Northland.—At the Hotel Driard there are at present domiciled a party of four gentlemen intimately identified with the Royal Geographical Society, who are leaving early in the coming week for the mysterious unknown northland, which they enter at a post about 21 chains south of the place of commencement. Their expedition, which promises to be of great interest and importance to science, is entirely a private one. The members of the party are A. G. McCallum, Jacques Hess, Victor Gimner and John O. Hall.

Two Day Of

Steamer Kinsh. Yesterday the Steamer Kinsh. left for the Dou...

The Kinsh. reached yesterday afternoon out-wharf at 9 o'clock ahead of her scheduled time.

There were 38 Japanese passengers, five Chinese, and 127 passengers, of whom 185 were men, five women, and seven children.

THE CASO. Season for Transport. About at the same time...

The stern-wheel steamer from the North last night, when she was on her return from Port Essington for landing the animal manure yesterday.

NORTHERN. Two of the C. P. N. the North T. Two of the C. P. N. will sail for the North T. on Friday.

When the steamer here on Friday in appearance, speed, she will be one of the best boats, if not the best, on the coast.

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