Pioneer Miners' Reminiscences

Interesting Speech by British Columbia's First Placer Miner.

Closing Business of the Recent Session of Provincial Association.

Among the delegates to the recent annual convention of the Provincial Mining Association was Mr. E. Jacobs. Since leaving Victoria early in December Mr. Jacobs has visited several of the more important mining sections of the Kootenay and Boundary districts, obtaining for publication information relative to the mining and smelting industries. Several lengthy contributions by him on those subjects have already been published and others will shortly appear.

Speaking of the situation generally, Mr. Jacobs says that he has found a distinct improvement throughout the mining districts he visited. More development work was in progress, substantial improvements and additions were being made to plants, buildings, etc., and several additions of output of ore either had already been made or were being prepared for. This was the case in the Boundary, Rossland, Nelson, Slocan, and East Kootenay, the coal mining industry in the Crow's Nest section of the last named district especially exhibiting much activity and enlargement of operations.

In the Boundary the Granby mines are maintaining a daily production of 1,500 to 2,000 tons of ore a day, all of which, together with custom ores from several other mines, is treated at the Granby Company's smelter at Grand Forks. The company's mine superintendent, Mr. Wm. Yolen Williams, has returned from a three months' vacation with his health restored, and the smelter superintendent, Mr. A. B. W. Hodges, is back from a business trip to Montreal, where he met the directors of the company. The Snowshoe, another mine that was among last year's producers, is temporarily closed down, pending the decision of the shareholders as to whether or not the proposed amalgamation with the British Columbia Copper Company shall be carried out. It is expected that the provisional arrangement made by the managers will be agreed to by the shareholders and that the mine will shortly resume work, sending out from 600 to 700 tons of ore a day for treatment at the B. C. Copper Company's smelter at Greenwood. Regarding the reports relative to an early resumption of work at the Dominion Copper Company's mines, Phoenix, nothing definite can be learned. The laying of the rails on the spurs from the C. P. R. at Phoenix to this company's Brooklyn and Stemwinder mines gave color to the report that operations were to be resumed at the mine but this work may have to be done to admit of the shipment of the 10,000 tons or more of ore on the dumps. Other reports as to the probable amalgamation of the Dominion Copper Company and the Montreal and Boston Copper Company, the latter for some time past having operated the smelter at Boundary Falls, still lack confirmation. Meanwhile the smelter is idle, having been so since it was shut down about two months ago.

The B. C. Copper Company is adding to plant and machinery at both its Mother Lode mine, near Greenwood, and its smelter at the town. A second large Farrel crusher is due to arrive from the Jenckes Machinery Company's manufactory, Sherbrooke, Quebec, any day, the contract time for its delivery having already expired. In connection with the installation of this crusher some important improvements are being made at the mine which will result in the more expeditious handling of large quantities of ore than has been practicable heretofore. At the smelter, the buildings for the housing of the converter plant are finished. One of these is built of steel, resting on massive piers and covered with corrugated iron; the main building is 45 feet in width, 90 feet in length and 38 feet in clear height, and an extension is 30 feet wide and 40 feet long. The machinery is slow in arriving, the only important part received up to the middle of last week being the Nordberg blowing engine, which is arranged for running by either steam or electricity. Three parts of this, each weighing about 18,000 pounds, have been placed in position. The brick sub-station for stepping down the electric current to be received here at a voltage of 22,000 volts is ready for use so soon as the transformers and other apparatus shall be received. Another substantial building improvement recently made here is the erection of a brick smoke stack 122 feet in height. The improvements and additions to plant are being made under the direction of Mr. J. B. McAllister, superintendent of the smelter, with Mr. George Williams, formerly of Vancouver Island, as construction engineer.

Other district mines shipping regularly to Boundary smelters are the Emma, Oro Denoro and Senator, all in Summit camp, and the Athelstan-Jackpot group in Wellington camp. The high-grade gold-silver mines near Greenwood are continuing to do well, the Providence, Elkhorn and E. P. U. all producing ore that leaves a good margin of profit above mining, freight and treatment costs. It is stated that Mr. W. L. Hogg, of Montreal, has arranged to shortly commence to develop the Arlington-Burns group, near Greenwood, whilst negotiations for the opening up of the Bruce claim, near Midway, by the B. C. Copper Company, under a working bond, are practically completed.

The continued good reports from the Le Roi mine, Rossland, are giving much satisfaction to those interested in the progress of that camp. Whilst on the way down from the interior Mr. Jacobs met a friend who had recently seen the big showing of ore at the 1,350 foot level of the Le Roi, and he was quite enthusiastic in describing it. The drift is in a large body of good ore for at least 120 feet and another sheet of ore besides this has been cut on the same level. The net profit of about $50,000 for January, which included returns from only the small quantity of ore taken out in development of this newly-discovered shoot incourages the hope that when production from this level shall also be considerable the monthly profits will be at least as large as those earned last month. Not much was ascertained of the Le Roi No. 2, but it is understood that the returns from the Elmore oil concentrator continue to be satisfactory as well as those from the ore being chipped to Greenwood from the mine. The War Eagle and Centre Star are also stated to be doing well, but no particulars of operations were obtained. The big concentrator the Rossland Power Company is erecting at Trail for the treatment of ores from these mines is well on towards completion, and it is stated that it will be ready for operation by the summer. The White Bear is continuing its developments under ground and its preparation for the adequate equipment of the mine, so that it should be in a position to add a substantial quantity of ore to the total of the daily production of the Rossland mines.

The Jumbo, on Sophie mountain, which has opened up a large body of ore, is now shipping about 1,000 tons a month to the Granby Company's smelter at Grand Forks. This mine is understood to be paying its way, notwithstanding that under existing conditions only hand-drilling is practicable in the mine, and that the ore has to be hauled in wagons about three and a half to the railway. It is expected that a power plant will be installed here next summer and that a spur will be constructed to give rail by connection. The Columbia-Kootenay mine, which has been closed down temporarily, is reported to be about to resume work, fresh arrangements having been made with the smelter for the treatment of its ores.

In the Nelson mining division there is also much progress being made. The Silver King continues to ship ore to the Hall Mining and Smelting Company's smelter at Nelson. The Athabasca-Venus mines are steadily reducing and keeping their stamp mill and cyanide plant running on gold quartz of a profitable grade. At Ymir there is much activity. The Ymir mine, now under the management of Mr. George H. Barnhart, who was appointed general manager from January 1, is stated to be making good showing. The Wilcox, Foghorn, Gold Cup and other gold mines of this camp are all opening up well, making the outlook for Ymir better than for some time past. The big silver-bearing lime deposits of the Hunter V. group, owned and operated by the B. C. Standard Mining Company, of Nelson, are attracting much attention throughout the district, and the reports made public at the recent annual meeting of shareholders in this company have strengthened the confidence already generally felt that this enterprise is one of sterling merit and that its success is assured.

Mr. Jacobs did not visit the Slocan, but he met several of the mine managers from that section and all agreed that between the assistance given by the bounty on lead and the much improved market for zinc the prospects for the silver-lead mines are better than they have have been for several years past. Although the good effects of the lead bounty are not yet prominently noticeable, they are none the less real, as will be demonstrated after development work now proceeding shall result in a substantial increase in the output of ore.

In the Crow's Nest Pass coal regions and across the Rocky Mountains in Southwest Alberta, development and equipment of the coal mines is proceeding right along. The Crow's Nest Pass Coal Company's mines at Coal Creek, Michel and Morrissey, are equal to a combined daily output of nearly 4,000 tons, and with development in progress will steadily add to their producing capacity. When the collieries were visited last month there were being worked nineteen mines in all, six at Coal Creek, eight at Michel and five at Morrissey. There were 424 coke ovens in operation at Fernie, 420 at Michel and 140 at Morrissey. There were 44 more ovens in course of construction at Michel and 100 at Morrissey. When these shall have been completed the company will have a total of 1,128 ovens, of a capacity of one and one-third to one and one-half tons of coke per oven per day. There were between 1,800 and 1,900 persons employed, this including men on construction work, and the management, engineering and clerical staff, as well as miners, oven men, etc.

The C. P. R. were stated to have forty men at work opening up coal mines on the South Fork of Michel creek, within ten miles of the town of Fernie, railway. Although an extensive area of coal lands had been taken up outside of the holdings of the Crow's Nest Pass Coal Company and the C. P. R., little or no work of importance has yet been done on it, so far as could be ascertained.

In the Blairmore-Frank coal district, on the eastern flank of the Rocky mountains, the International Coke and Coal Company, of which Mr. A. C. Flumerfelt, of Victoria, is president, had 70 to 80 men employed grading for track laying, excavating for coke ovens, and other construction work. About four miles of railway track are being put in for coke and coke shipping purposes, and 104 coke ovens are being built. This company has one mine near the railroad, the main entry being within two or three hundred yards of the line. The heading was in about 800 feet on a seam of very good coal, giving 12 to 14 feet of clean coal, about the same as the C. P. R. was being supplied with in the district. Another seam of excellent coking coal has been opened up 200 to 300 feet and four more seams are awaiting development. The new town of Blairman building up in connection with the International Company's colliery bids fair to be the best town in Southwest Alberta west of Macleod. Other coal companies are also operating about Blairmore and Frank, and the coal fields here are being developed with the object of maintaining an approximately large production, though the total output of the district will not be likely for two or three years yet to equal the present production of the Crow's Nest Pass fields.

THE JAP SOLDIER'S PAY.

Lieutenant-General Gets About Two Thousand Dollars.

The Japanese Tommy does not put his heart into the business because he makes a good thing out of it. There are in the army two classes of privates, first and second, and it is the latter who corresponds to the Tommy of the British army. His total pay amounts to one shilling and ten pence a month, and even when he is promoted to the first class it is only seven pence a month. A first class sergeant gets thirteen shillings a month, and a "first class special sergeant-major," the highest rank which a non-commissioned officer can hold, £1 8s. 6d. a month.

Neither are the officers any more extravagantly remunerated. A second lieutenant gets only £34 a year; a captain, £71; a colonel, £238; a lieutenant-general, £400; and a general £600. If the latter wishes to retire after eleven years' full service with the colors, he may do so on a pension of only £3 or £4 a week.

The officer, however, is trained to be very frugal and very earnest and business-like, so that his gay goes much farther than it would do if he were an officer of this country. He is despised and refused promotion if he is dissipated and falls into debt. There is no mess with its heavy expenses to maintain.

Nervous Disorders and Despondency

Mind and Body Become Diseased and Helpless When the Nervous System Becomes Exhausted.

The future of the sufferer from nervous derangements is not a bright one. Locomotor ataxia, paralysis, and insanity are staring him in the face, for these are the usual results of neglected nervous diseases.

Because there is not usually much pain associated with derangements of nerve people fail to realize their danger.

They forget that sleeplessness, irritability, loss of memory, lack of energy and vitality, spells of weakness and dizziness, tired feelings, discouragement and despondency are symptoms more to be dreaded than great pain, because the mind as well as the body is threatened.

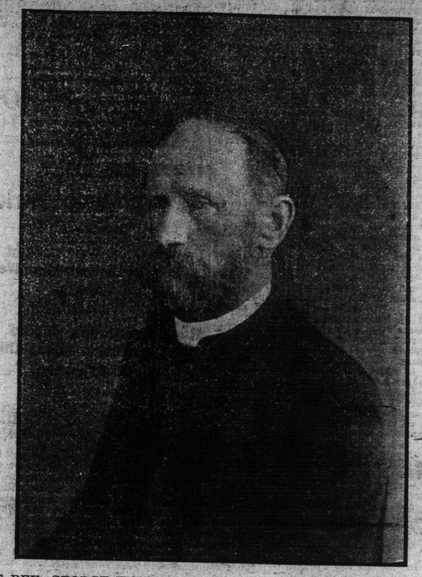
There is no more satisfactory means of forming new blood and creating new nerve force than by the use of Dr. Chase's Nerve Food.

This great food cure acting through the medium of the blood and nerves instills new vigor and vitality into every part and organ of the body.

It forms new nerve cells and new muscular tissue and while it invigorates the mind it adds new, firm flesh to the body. You can prove this by weighing yourself while using it.

With new vigor comes new hope and confidence, and weakness and disease give place to strength and energy.

Dr. Chase's Nerve Food, 50 cents a box, 6 boxes for $2.50, at all dealers, or Edmanson, Bates & Company, Toronto. To protect you against imitations, the portrait and signature of Dr. A. W. Chase, the famous receipt book author, are on every box.



THE REV. GEORGE WILLIAM TAYLOR, F.R.S.C., F.E.S., F.Z.E.

The following concerning a reverend gentleman, well known in Victoria, and at present resident at Nanaimo is taken from the Canadian Entomologist:

The readers of the Canadian Entomologist will be pleased, we feel sure, to see the good portrait given herewith of the Rev. G. W. Taylor, who, during the last twenty years, has done such excellent work in almost all lines of Natural History in British Columbia. Born in 1854, in Derby, England, where he received his education, Mr. Taylor, after leaving school, studied mining engineering, but in 1882 came out to Canada and went at once to British Columbia, where he had relatives. Although engaged for a short time in farming, he began almost immediately to study for the ministry, and in 1884 was ordained by the Bishop of Columbia. Since that time, with the exception of two years, from September, 1888, to August, 1890, which he spent in Ottawa as rector of the joint parishes of St. Barnabas and Holy Trinity, he has been in charge of parishes in British Columbia, and at the present time is rector of the Church of England at Wellington, B. C. From boyhood Mr. Taylor has been keenly interested in Natural Science, and from his enthusiasm and industry has accomplished much, not only in doing original work of importance in several lines of Zoology and Palaeontology, but in constantly encouraging and assisting others with whom he came in contact, to take up and enjoy with him his favorite studies.

Mr. Taylor has for many years been a Fellow of the Entomological and Zoological Societies of London, England, and in 1884 was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada in recognition of his important services to science, particularly in connection with his investigations in Canadian Conchology and Entomology. In 1887 he was appointed Honorary Provincial Entomologist of the British Columbia Department of Agriculture, and sent out circulars to farmers, drawing their attention to the losses caused by insects and asking their co-operation. Owing to his removal to Eastern Canada in 1888, this work was relinquished before any report was issued. Several important papers have appeared from his pen in the Transactions of the Royal Society of Canada, the Canadian Entomologist, the Ottawa Naturalist and the Nautilus. Many new species have been discovered by this energetic worker, and several have been named after him. Among insects, species which have been mentioned in this magazine are Melitae Taylori, Edw. Anthelia Taylorata, Hulst, Ichneumon Taylori, Harrington, Trichiosoma Taylori, Provencher, and Adenites Taylori, Wickham. All orders of insects, however, have been studied, and several other species in different orders from those named have been or are being named after the subject of this sketch. Some of Mr. Taylor's best work has been done on the Mollusca, and naturally several new species have been called after him; among those which occur to us are Pristoloma Taylori, Pilsbury, Modiolari Taylori, Dall and Phyllaphysia Taylori, Dall; in addition a new species of sponge, Leucandra Taylori, Lambe, may be mentioned.

Enormous and valuable collections of British Columbian specimens of various kinds have been made, and generally sent off to specialists in all parts of the world. Mr. Taylor, possesses himself the largest private collection of Limpets (Patellidae and allied families) in the world; also the most complete collection of Unionidae in Canada, and one of the largest collections of land and water shells (7,000 species) in Canada.

A constant collector of insects, Mr. Taylor has also amassed valuable collections in several orders, notwithstanding the fact that he has made a practice continually of giving way to specialists any specimens which were required for study. His cabinets contain a wealth of representative specimens of inestimable value to the many beginners who have been stirred up by his enthusiasm to investigate the insect fauna of our Pacific Coast Province. At the present time he is devoting all his energies to the working up of the North American Geometridae, paying particular attention to northern species which are likely to occur in Canada. Since the death of the Rev. G. D. Hulst, this important family of moths has been somewhat neglected by American students. Mr. Taylor's methods of work are systematic and thorough. First securing all the literature on the subject under consideration, he then strives to acquire types for study from the original localities, compare them with the descriptions, and then with extensive series of specimens from as wide an area as possible. He is an indefatigable collector and generous correspondent, who considers no trouble too much to make observations of this specimens when specially desired. In his relations with the world he is patient, gentle and self-denying, always ready to help; a clear and forcible preacher, and an earnest liver who shows in his life that religion is not an accessory of everyday life, but an integral part of it.

HOW HE WON HER.

"You serpent!" hissed the fair, but angry daughter of Eve. "You snake charmer!" retorted the wise son of Adam. Then she smiled, and womanlike, forgave him."—Chicago News.

THE GALLANT WARRIOR.

"Suppose," said the fair grass widow, "that you and I were out strolling along a lonely road, miles and miles from any house and where nobody was likely to come along with a wagon or buggy for a week, and I should suddenly happen to—to sprain my ankle so that I couldn't walk, what would you do?"

"Well, I'll tell you," replied the Colonel, "there's one thing I learned in the army that seems to come in kind of pat here."

"Yes?" she eagerly urged. "Something about first aid to the injured? Ah, Colonel, you soldiers must be handy at such times. What was it you learned in the army?"

"Never to worry before a mule gets sick about the kind of treatment he may need."—Chicago Record-Herald.

CHRIS EVANS BEATEN.

Trinidad, Colo., March 14.—Chris Evans, financial manager of the United Mine Workers of America, was cruelly beaten by three masked men with revolvers today on board a Colorado and Southern passenger car bound for Pueblo. The men boarded the train a mile east of Trinidad and after attacking Evans, jumped off and escaped. Evans was sent to Colorado by President Mitchell. At Pryor today guards killed Michael Salabace, a striker. Salabace, it is said, had fired at a building behind which a guard had barricaded himself in his house to resist arrest. The guards broke into the house.

SEVENTY-EIGHT MISSING.

Brisbane, Queensland, March 14.—The British steamer Aramac was wrecked on the Breaks sea spit off Queensland on Sunday morning. Her boats were launched and two were safely landed with sixty exhausted passengers and members of the crew. Four other boats are still missing containing seventy-eight passengers. It is believed that these boats were not provisioned. The weather is bad and steamers sent in search of the boats have found no trace of them.

GRAVE FILLERS.

"Sir," said the man whose knees shook when the train entered the tunnel, "do you know the most dangerous thing on a railroad train?"

"Why," responded the gay drummer, "it is the cigars the train boy sells."—Chicago News.

A MOTHER'S LOVE

A mother's love is so divine that the roughest man cannot help but appreciate it as the crown of womanhood. However, Motherhood is looked forwardto with feelings of great dread by almost all women. At such times a woman is nervous, dyspeptic, irritable, and she is in need of a uterine tonic and nervine, a strength builder to fit her for the ordeal. No matter how healthy or strong a woman may be she cannot help but be benefited by taking Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription to prepare for the event.

This is what one mother says:

"With a heart overflowing with gratitude I will endeavor to write you. It is nearly two years ago since I first wrote to you for advice regarding my health which was then very bad," writes Mrs. L. Pope, of Hinesdale, Ky., to Dr. R. V. Pierce, chief consulting surgeon of the Invalids' Hotel and Surgical Institute, at Buffalo, N. Y. "I have described my sufferings in other letters to you. After receiving your advice and the 'Common Sense Medical Adviser' I bought some of your 'Favorite Prescription,' and to-day am a well woman and the proud mother of a dear little boy."

Backed up by over a third of a century of remarkable cures, a record such as no other remedy for the diseases and weaknesses peculiar to women ever attained, the proprietors and makers of Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription now feel fully warranted in offering to pay $500 in legal money of the United States, for any case of Leucorrhea, Female Weakness, Prolapsus, or Falling of Womb which they cannot cure. All they ask is a fair and reasonable trial of their means of cure.

Their financial responsibility is well known to every newspaper publisher and druggist in the United States, with most of whom they have done business for over a third of a century.

How to live in health and happiness, is the general theme of Dr. Pierce's Common Sense Medical Adviser. This great work on medicine and hygiene, containing over 1000 pages and more than 700 illustrations, is sent free on receipt of stamps to pay customs and mailing only. Send 50 one-cent stamps for the cloth-bound volume, or only 31 stamps for the book in paper covers.

A Wonderful Scene at Sea

From Notes of Rupert de la Touche by W. Clark Russell.

Author of "The Wreck of the Grosvenor," "Overdue," etc.

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THE following is an account set down by the second mate of one of the ships concerned in the much-debated wonderful scene which is now receding in the far past of our empire's annals. It has come into my hands by a strange chance of fortune, and is, substantially, given in its original form.

"We were a not less memorable and historical fleet than that which sailed in charge of the renowned Columbus; but the nature of our departure, unless it were some lurking, idle waterman who, sprawling with one arm akimbo upon a post and chewing his black junk of tobacco, says to his companion: 'Them convict ships is off at last, Bill,' and that might be all.

"Nevertheless, we were the ships destined by Providence to expand the empire of our country by establishing a colony in Australia, or New Holland, as that spacious island-continent was formerly termed. We were eleven ships in all—a sorrowful, melancholy, pitiful, ill-equipped, lamenting procession. We were five transports or convict ships laden with male or female felons; and the ship, I may say here, was the Lady Penrhyn of three hundred and seven tons, manned by thirty sailors and our freight was a hundred and two women. Other ships were the Sirius of twenty guns, flying the broad pennant of a Commodore, and some victualling vessels, together with a wet and surly little craft called the Supply, an armed tender of one hundred and seventy tons, eight guns and fifty men. These ships were to enlarge our empire by Embracing a new continent which even in this year of my writing (1825) promises to rival the United States of America in the beauty and richness of its towns and cities, in the magnificence of its harbors, in the excellence and extent of its ports and the multitude of shipping that visits them, and in the value and variety of its natural products and exports, outrivaling the opulence of Chili and Peru when these nations of the silver god were whitening the ocean with the sails of pirate-hunting galleons.

"When we were some degrees north of the Equator we fell in with such a strange and amazing scene of nature that I am constrained to describe it. I never can doubt but that the convicts we took on deck at the time were convinced that the Captain had betrayed the promises of Commodore P——, who had talked to them of a bright and flowery country, where, if they conducted themselves with propriety, they would end in becoming the mistresses of houses and land—by sailing them into a part of the universe which was unknown to man and perhaps not a part of this globe, full of thunders and fires and terrors, of Pagan rites and bloody sacrifices.

"The hour was shortly before eleven in the forenoon. All the females were on deck taking the exercise that was part of their discipline. It was extremely warm. I scarcely remember a hotter day. The pitch in the seams was as soft as butter and stuck to the feet, and if you touched the woodwork exposed to the sun you raised a blister. The sea rolled soft and breathlessly. It was the color of brass, shining with a kind of polished mistiness under the sun which flamed with a troubled face. The walls of the sky were hung with mist amid which you dimly discerned the figures of the distant ships of the fleet looming large and rolling sukilly, and the bowsprit of every ship, controlled upon that swelling burnished surface, which looked as yellow as a guinea, pointed in a different direction.

"On a sudden it seemed to grow gloomy, as though a cloud had passed over the sun, though when I looked up I did not observe that his foggy brightness was diminished. At the same moment a tremendous commotion happened round about us, and away. For the distance of a league or two from the ship's sides, the water was set a-boiling, and such volumes of steam arose that you could not see the sky for them. A great flame shot out of the water not a mile distant from where we lay helpless. This volcanic outburst was attended by a roaring noise as of shocks of thunder one after another. Some of the females were so afraid that they fell upon their knees, and here and there you could see a woman crossing herself.

"Whilst the water still boiled a huge black whale was thrown up dead; it rose within a musket shot of us. When some of the less timid of the females beheld this tremendous apparition, never having seen a whale before, nor perhaps heard of one, unless on a Sunday afternoon, the lips of the prison chaplain when he read about Jonah, for they might have considered a hop-o'-my-thumb rather than a man to be swallowed up by and live inside any sort of fish, they set up a screech that it was a rock, that the ship would strike upon it and sink. No one heeded them. The uproar and surprising upheaval without raised too many alarms within to suffer the cries of a few ignorant women to engage attention.

"Presently the steam passed and the water left off to boil; the color of the ocean changed into a foaming red, and a horrid smell arose from it; the surface was covered with dead fishes; fishes of all kinds and sizes; great fishes on their backs, with their bellies gleaming white in the blood-red setting of water; stranged-shaped fishes on their sides, painted as gaily as the flowers of a hothouse cosegay; long black fishes moving serpent-wise in their deadness on the swell.

"The seamen got into the channels and with buckets and other contrivances drew enough fish out of which were already partly boiled, to serve us at both ends of the ship for half a score of meals. And let me tell you that there is not in all this wide world a sweeter dish than a liberal fry of fresh fish at sea after you have been used for many weeks to the stone-hard beef, and flinty biscuits on which we mariners are fed. I heartily wished that fish for the poor women had been drawn up. Had not God in this smiting of His wrath—the creatures inhabiting it, provided plenty? Might not the food, without irreverence, have been likened to the miraculous draught? But the women were convicts and were not to be pampered, as they went without whilst the sailors ate; though God knows ne'er a man aft or forward but would have shared his meal with the poor women, for no matter in what opinion Jack may be held, he has a tender for compassion; and that if there is one man more willing than another to help a poor suffering women, he is a sailor.

"The horrible smell of the sea continued, and combined with the heat rendered the atmosphere scarce endurable. Some of the women gave way in earnest, so the captain ordered all of them below.

"The ocean remained a ghastly red until the afternoon, and we all pined for a breeze to blow us away clear of the smells and discolored waters coared with dead fish, huge amongst which, and close to our ship, towered the dead leviathan of the deep, a grey and hideous object that dazzled the wet gleams as it lightly lurched with the swell, a menace that, unless wind came, its corruption would convert this spot of ocean into a climate thick and noxious with the viewless fever, and the deadly unseen pestilences that stalk out of decay.

"About four o'clock, however, the sea recovered its natural color by deposition, I suppose, of the scarlet matter which had been upheaved into the volume of water—as smoke spreads and fills the body of the atmosphere—by the tremendous shock at the bottom of the sea; and shortly after our eyes were gladdened by the sight of the burnished calm in the north-east turning a deeper and purer tint to the busy brushing of the breeze. One by one the ships took this air of wind and swung to it, every ship troubling the water into foam under her bows, with the sails swelling and glistening in the afternoon light, as though wrought of silk; and thus, over the now blue ocean, frolicsome with ripples, every ripple shining with its curl of froth that sand salt and cool in the wind, did the ships of the fleet, coming together, sail on, away from that circle poisoned by volcanic spasm, and in an hour or two we had lost sight of the rock-light loom of the dead whale.

"This I have made a note of as an incident of Commodore P——'s voyage recorded in two only of his log-books of the ships, but so imperfectly as to convey no idea of the wonderful scene of that submarine earthquake, and the fulness of its horrors of lightnings, thunders, vapors and stenches."

Next week: "Bachelor Brothers," by Rachel Challice.

WHERE SHALL UNIONISM END?

Appeal From a St. Louis Firm Writhing Under a Boycott—Unions Out to Crush It—It's Crime Is, Failing to Use the Union Label.

"The real question in industrial tiff," says an interesting document drawn up in St. Louis, "is: Shall labor unions be permitted to decide the question of life and death of firms and corporations which simply ask to be allowed to do a legitimate business?"

The document is an appeal drawn up by the Koken Barbers' Supply Company to the trade and the public to stand by it in a fight for existence against a few labor unions which have determined to force it to the wall and are leaving nothing undone to attain that end. It contains a story which, coming immediately after the revelations of a corner in labor absolutely controlling the industrial prosperity of San Francisco and of robber leagues of employees and labor leaders to prey upon the public in Chicago, has turned the thoughts of St. Louis business men in a new direction.

The Koken Barbers' Supply Company is fighting a boycott instituted against it by a few local labor unions which are now endeavoring to cinch their grip upon the concern by enlisting the national and international bodies affiliated with them upon their side. No charge is made that the company oppresses its employees, that it does not pay fair wages or that it obliges its men to perform onerous or unhealthful tasks.

All the company's employees, in fact, both union and non-union, are thoroughly satfsfied. There has been no strike, no threat of a strike nor the slightest intimation of dissatisfaction from any of them. In one of the largest departments the company has annual agreements made through the St. Louis Metal Trades Association, covering all points of their employment.

The sole trouble is that the company has never adopted and declines to use the union label on its goods. On that account the Amalgamated Woodworkers' Council of St. Louis, after it the Central Trades Council, and through its agency the Journeymen Barbers' Union, have declared that the company shall not use its goods.

From this verdict the company in a temperate statement of its side of the case is appealing to the public and to unionism at large. Here are parts of its appeal:

"It has always been an aim to employ the most skilled mechanics we could secure, because we have found them, notwithstanding their higher wages, to be the most profitable producers. Having obtained such we have sought to tie them to us by every honorable means.

"We were pioneers in adopting a nine-hour day. We have worked but nine hours a day since May, 1892. We have the reputation of having paid more for a nine-hour day than other firms using the same class of mechanics were paying for a ten-hour day. The conditions as to safety, comfort and healthfulness are considered ideal. We have rewarded some of our best mechanics by taking them in as stockholders to share the profits of the business.

"We employ both union and non union mechanics, not discriminating against or in favor of either class. We are believers in the spirit of Americanism, which leaves every individual absolute freedom to choose his own calling, his own religion, his own politics, and his own social affiliations; and we have not, by persuasion or otherwise, attempted to keep any man out of any union, nor caused him to join such.

"Our feelings toward unionism have been friendly, believing that the fundamental principle of the same, to improve the wages and conditions of labor for the individual, is highly laudable and fair, and we have contributed financially to nearly every union cause that has come to our notice or has appealed for our aid. We are, however, firmly opposed to coercion and violence, blacklisting and boycotting, whether of association against union or union against association.

"We have prided ourselves on the various labels and trademarks adopted by us from time to time. They have been recognized as standing for high quality. Now, is it a fact that the unions admit only such highly skilled labor that their label would add anything in the estimation of the public to the confidence they feel in our goods? Could we afford to discard our own labels and plaster our chairs with the labels of the various crafts employed in their construction—one label for the woodworker, another for the upholsterer, another for the polishers and buffers and another for the finishers?

"Then must we turn against our employees and say: '"You must join the union to save us from this ill-smelling boycott"? Some of them have been in our employ for fifteen, twenty and twenty-five years. Some are now too old and feeble to work under strict union rules.

"Suppose we consented. Into which union must we force our cabinet makers? A year ago last spring the Amalgamated Woodworkers made an agreement with a number of fixture firms in St. Louis covering two years. After a year the woodworkers repudiated their agreement and struck.

"The general secretary came down from Chicago and told the men they were in the wrong, yet they continued their strike. He disbanded the council and most of the men joined the carpenters' (building trades) council. The general secretary started a new union which has probably a hundred members, and which, though numerically weak, through the central trades is now bringing this pressure to bear. Suppose we forced our men into this union, who would protect us from the Building Trades Council?

"In the one case the officers were not able to control the men who broke faith; in the other are the men who broke faith with their employers and annulled their agreement in the face of their officers. Must we, to use the union label, out ourselves under the control of such organizations? If we did so what peace could we expect? How could we enter into contracts with our customers without fear that we could not fill them as required?

"According to reliable statistics the membership of labor unions represents about 15 per cent of the workers of the country. The business agent of one of the local unions stated in open meeting that two-thirds of their members were forced into the union. If this proportion of voluntary and involuntary members holds good in the other unions, then we see the astounding spectacle of one-third of 15 per cent or 5 per cent of the workers of this country presuming to dictate not only wages and conditions of labor, but to decree at pleasure the destruction of business institutions which have the temerity to suppose that they have rights which unionism is bound to respect. Shall their verdict be executed?

"We appeal for principle. Let the supreme judges, the American people, pronounce their verdict. Is unionism superior to the Constitution? Is unionism above the police, above the magistrates and the judges? Are men and women to be judged solely according to their fidelity to unionism or will justice and truth still be the factors? These are the true questions."

The boycott against the company has been in effect about three months. The company says that so far it has had little effect, and it expects when the facts are known that it will even have less.

TALKS ON FERTILIZERS.

(Written for the Sunday Colonist.)

FROM previous articles treating on run-down or naturally un-productive soils, the reader may have gotten the impression that seldom any fertilizer but potash is needed; it, however, must be borne in mind that many of these soils are sadly deficient in phosphoric acid, without which, potash or any other fertilizer combination can be effective. Again, a sour condition may prevail, which must be overcome before the majority of farm crops will ourselves of food supplied in a case of this sort where phosphates are employed, the alkaline Thomas phosphate should be used in preference to an acid phosphate, liming, also, should be resorted to.

There are tracts of peaty land so deficient in phosphates that young stock, obtaining no other food than the growth thereon, come affected with the disease of the bones resulting in death, unless the animal is provided with food from other sources rich in bone-making material; on such soils potash alone can have but little effect; after the use in addition of phosphoric acid in available forms not only will increase the crop but supplies the plants with the needed phosphates as well, which in turn properly nourishes the animal body.

The writer has been able to observe a number of experiments on these soils, some of which were of much interest. One instance on a piece of ground when sowed to grain, nothing but coarse rank leaves would be obtained, soon dying back; an application of potash to barley produced seemingly a perfect plant, but no grain, the straw and ears looked promising, but would not ripen and refused to fill out, the farmer at last, in order to obtain anything from his land, was compelled to cut it for hay, this strongly illustrated the fact that without phosphoric acid plants can not produce seed, and will die before maturity. In other instances on similar soil, potash alone showed but slight effect. Even on soils where potash alone is decidedly beneficial the addition of superphosphate often shows such marked improvement as to pay for the cost of its use. All users of fertilizers on these lands should test these two essentials alone and together. Many an experimenter has failed in his experiments because he failed to try the fertilizers in combination; for instance, on a soil deficient in both potash and phosphoric acid, neither one could be effective alone without the other, consequently plots treated with them separately would show little result, leading the experimenter to believe neither were needed, whereas had a third plot received an application of both, the result would have been most decided.

One remarkable instance of the prevention of potato blight by the use of potash should be recorded. A farmer who has a very deep peaty soil, has been using potash on potatoes for the last two years. Potatoes had been grown previously on this piece of land for five or six years in succession. The first year he applied potash on half the piece, on which half the crop had blighted badly the summer preceding; the fertilized half produced a splendid crop entirely free from blight whereas the untreated part blighted badly and produced only one-third of the amount of potatoes, of much poorer quality. The following year he used murinte of potash at the rate of 200 pounds per acre, resulting in a crop averaging fifteen tons per acre throughout the entire field, from three to five times as much as produced in former seasons. The entire crop, also, was free from blight, whereas his neighbor's crop, just across the road, was blighted badly. The fertilized crop, also, owing to its superior quality, sold at the highest market price.

The use of potash in these soils requires some judgment. Peaty soils, it must be remembered, are very rich in dormant nitrogen, a certain amount of which is rendered available by the addition of potash salts, an excessive amount of which, may free such an excess of nitrogen as to cause an undesirable rank growth of leaf and stalk. Generally fifty to one hundred pounds of muriate or sulphate of potash per acre produce the best results; in some instances one hundred pounds have proven too much. To prevent potato blight, not less than one hundred pounds of muriate or sulphate of potash should be used; one hundred and fifty to two hundred pounds would be better. The same amounts should be used on root crops in general. In some instances kainit has been preferred to the higher grade salts; for potatoes, however, sulphate of potash should be given the preference.

BLANEY E. MAYNARD.

BRITAIN'S BEST CUSTOMER.

How Much Uncle Sam is Indebted to United Kingdom.

More than one-half of the exports from the United States in 1903 went to British territory, and practically one-third of the imports into the United States came from British territory. The United States sent its exports to British territory in the calendar year 1903 were $768,000,000, of fifty-two per cent of their total imports from British territory, $308,000,000, of thirty-one per cent of the total, speaking in round terms. These facts are shown by an analysis of the year's commerce made by the Department of Commerce and Labor through its Bureau of Statistics. By British territory is meant the United Kingdom and its colonies, dependencies and protectorates.

The territory included under this designation of the United Kingdom and its colonies, dependencies and protectorotes contains over 11,000,000 square miles, or more than one-fifth of the land surface of the globe, and has a population of 400,000,000, or one-fourth of the population of the world. The largest exportation to British territory, of course, was to the United Kingdom—$543,000,000—and this was the largest exportation to any single country. Next in order of magnitude of exports to British territory was Canada, $131,000,000; British Australasia, $32,000,000; British Africa, $28,000,000; British West Indies, $10,000,000; India, nearly $5,000,000; and the remainder scattered through the smaller British dependencies.

Of the $308,000,000 worth of imports into the United States from British territory, $177,000,000, speaking in round terms, came from the United Kingdom, $53,000,000 from Canada, $48,000,000 from India, $12,000,000 from British West Indies, $7,000,000 from Australasia, $1,000,000 worth from British Africa and the remainder from numerous dependencies of less importance.

Thus, of the foreign commerce of the United States aggregating nearly two and one-half billion dollars in the calendar year 1903, more than one billion dollars represented commerce with British territory.

Canada stands third in the order of magnitude of exports from the United States, though that country has been included in the general discussion of United States commerce with British territory. Total United States exports to Canada in 1893 were $57,000,000, and in 1903 $131,000,000, an increase of about 130 per cent; while United States imports from Canada grew from $34,000,000 in 1893 to $53,000,000 in 1903, an increase of 56 per cent.

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France and The Vatican

Pope's Caustic Criticism of the French Policy Causes Sensation in Paris.

Regarded as Sufficiently Important As to Call For Official Report.

Loubet Will Go to Rome as a Representative of Authority.

Paris, March 19.—The Pope's caustic criticism of French policy in the course of his address to the cardinals yesterday, is receiving serious attention in the highest quarters here. It has been regarded as sufficiently important to call for an official report, which is now in the possession of the authorities. It was at first thought that the unofficial reports of the Pope's utterances might be overstated, but the official version fully makes evident the gravity of his remarks. The Pope characterized some of the past and prospective laws for the suppression of teaching by the religious orders as contrary to liberty and civilization, and criticized the arraignment of three French cardinals before the council of state for writing letters to President Loubet against the proposed extension of the laws.

The remarks of the Pope gave the additional certainty that M. Loubet will not make call at the Quirinal during his coming visit to Rome. The plans for the Presidential trip include a military review in Rome, a naval review at Naples and a number of other minor lesser functions, but there is no mention of the Vatican. This is being compared with Emperor William's conspicuous attentions to the Vatican authorities during his visit to Rome, and his showy call on Pope Leo, escorted by cuirassiers on May 2, 1903.

A prominent personage says President Loubet will go to Rome more like Charlemagne, as a representative of authority instead of dependence. The visit will also be notable in breaking the long-standing custom that the visit of the ruler of a Catholic country to Rome requires a visit to the Vatican. It is recognized among the diplomats that Emperor Francis Joseph has not retur