

PROVINCIAL NEWS

The Cariboo's Second Clean-Up Over \$60,000 for 47 Days' Washing—Smelter Proposition.

Notes from New Westminster—Survey on the Crow's Nest Into Fort Steele.

Evidence of a Mysterious Drowning Accident Discovered by Gabriola Island Boy.

A Hunting Accident Near Wellington—Aid Lamb Coming Back From Skagway.

Hon. D. W. Higgins, Speaker of the provincial house, arrived in Rossland last evening, says the Rossland Miner, after a two weeks' visit through the Boundary country. It was Mr. Higgins' first visit through the Boundary district, and he spoke most favorably of it.

"I went in by way of Vernon and visited Fairview, Greenwood and Grand Forks on my journey. There are now about 400 people in Fairview, and it appears to be most prosperous. Fairview, you know, is not a new camp, for it has been in existence for five or six years, but until a season or so ago it had fallen into disrepair. The Strathcarr Company, composed of Montreal people, started work there in 1891, and though some gold was produced, the experiment was not satisfactory, and on the report of the company's experts work was discontinued. Meanwhile, a ten stamp mill, which had been built by them, stood idle till last year, when the Morning Star people leased it and commenced work on some first-class free milling quartz, and during the single season they cleaned up \$32,500. That revived interest in the camp, and this year the Suninger company secured the mill and commenced re-erection. Though they were late getting to work they have cleaned up about \$20,000 and have a large quantity of concentrates on hand which still remains untreated," said Mr. Higgins last evening.

"The Tin Hills people have a magnificent claim and are delighted with the showing. They are working about 40 miners and have done about 500 feet of tunneling, all in solid quartz. This work has been divided amongst three different drifts. Their vein is known to be at least 33 feet wide, but as the crosscut which has been driven does not reach the foot wall, the real width of the ledge is not known.

"Before this work being done underground, the company is building a fine 16 stamp mill, which will surpass anything in the province. It is fitted with every up-to-date machinery, including a 20 stamp mill, most 25 stamp mills. As the tunnels have been in one all the way, there is an immense quantity of ore on the dump, and as soon as the new mill is completed they will all be sent right to the mill for milling. It is the intention to mill it just as it lies, without any picking or culling.

"The Joe Dandy, Lord Sudeley's mine, is also looking well, and it is reported that the owner has ordered a 20 stamp mill for use in connection with it."

Messrs. Barchand and A. H. Harrison, of Boundary creek, have secured under a working bond a nine-tenths interest in the Susic mineral claim situated in Fairview camp. Oxyphos mining division. The consideration named in the bond is the sum of \$10,000, payable at the expiration of six months from date. It is stipulated that development work shall be carried on continuously through the whole period covered by the bond, and that at least \$1,000 shall be expended in such work during the first three months.

The Susic claim was located in 1895. It has a 30 foot ledge of free milling quartz, mineralized with galena and iron pyrites. Seven tons of the ore, treated at Tacoma, returned values at the rate of \$60 per ton. The ledge has been opened by two prospect shafts and a cross-cut.

The Susic claim has already attained a certain amount of notoriety, a recent suit, brought before the county court at Midway, Boundary creek, having attracted a deal of notice among the men in this district and at Boundary creek. In this matter James Jernyn brought action against Guess Bros., of Greenwood, for the recovery of \$300, amount of deposit paid by him to them in a transaction involving purchase and sale of the claim. Jernyn contended, in effect, that Guess Bros. had misrepresented to him assay values and with character of ledge, but the jury returned a verdict in favor of the defendants.

VANCOUVER.

Vancouver, Aug. 30.—A telegram received yesterday from the superintendent of the Cariboo Hydraulic Mining Company, operating in Cariboo, states that the result of the clean-up which was completed on August 10 amounts to \$585,000 of amalgam of the estimated value of \$60,000. This is the proceeds of forty-seven days' washing with two giants. The dryness of the season has considerably lessened the supply of water, and thus the clean-up was not as big as would otherwise have been the case. Before next season the company will have completed works which will greatly to the output. Hydraulic operations were resumed as soon as the clean-up was made, but it is expected that lack of water will permit work being carried on for only a limited number of hours per day. Under existing circumstances it is not thought that the total clean-up for the season will amount to more than \$150,000.

Vice-President Shaughnessy and the C.P.R. party returned from Victoria this morning, and had a conference with the board of trade in regard to terminal buildings and other matters connected with transportation. The C.P.R. has been forbidden to use their trains faster than four miles an hour within the city limits.

Another smelter proposition was placed

before the city council last night by W. H. Remington, of Salt Lake City. He asks that the plant and building be assessed for not more than \$50,000 for ten years, and 50,000 gallons of water be given for ten years at 5 cents per 1,000 gallons, and thirty days after plant is completed and down in that the city give a bonus of \$100,000 in return for the same amount of paid-up shares in the smelter company, which the company binds itself to buy back within ten years. The smelter would have a refinery in connection with it capable of treating twenty-five tons of lead-silver bullion in twenty-four hours.

Vancouver, Sept. 1.—The last report from the Fire Mountain mine brought down by the secretary, Mr. Leckie, is to the effect that the tunnel is on the lead 75 feet and the width of the vein has increased from three feet to nine and a half feet, all in free gold ore. The vein has been traced on the surface still another 500 feet, making 1,500 feet in all, while the out-cropping in one place shows a 30-foot ledge. The mill will be positively crushing this season. Six more horses have been sent up, and more men and the machinery will all be in in four weeks, when the aerial tramway, two miles from the mine to the site, will be constructed.

In the case of Mrs. Piper the coroner's jury have returned a verdict that "deceased came to her death by poison, administered or taken while under the medical care of Dr. S. A. Metherell."

The evidence of Dr. J. M. Lefevre was that he made a post-mortem on the body of Mrs. Piper, and found no indication of attempted abortion or poison. The brain was in a state of congestion which may have caused death as might be caused by poison.

Dr. Poole swore he was called to see deceased, and when he came in Dr. Metherell told him to hurry up as it was a case of morphia poison. Dr. Metherell was not, he thought, in his normal condition. He used drugs a great deal. A sister of deceased deposed that she did not believe her sister took a dose of chloroform before going to see the doctor, and the eye indicated the presence of morphia.

Dr. Metherell stated that deceased called on him for treatment, telling him at the same time she had taken over twenty drops of chloroform. She was in great pain and he injected morphia, he thought twice, putting the patient in his own bed. She was in reach of his drugs, but he never dreamt she would use them. When he came back she was unconscious.

NANAIMO.

Nanaimo, Sept. 1.—On Monday last a son of Mr. Harry Peterson, of Gabriola Island, while out for a walk with his dog, was surprised to find his dog with a large piece of bacon, which he has scented on the beach. In the help on the shore Peterson found an old Hudson's Bay trading coat, blue in color, and with anchor buttons. In the side pocket was a bag of Seal of North Carolina tobacco. Not far from the coat was the dead body of a well bred bull terrier, apparently not long dead. Peterson inclines to the belief that some one has been upset and these things have floated ashore. He reported the whole matter to Constable Stephenson, of Wellington.

A boy named Tom Jones, 17 years of age, whose parents live on the shore of Green lake, beyond Wellington, was taken into the hospital to-day with a gunshot wound in the back of the shoulder. He and a companion were out hunting near Wellington, when the gun burst in the hands of the latter, and in some unaccountable manner, putting the whole charge into the rear of the shoulder. He was conveyed to Dr. Wasson's, dressed, and thence to the hospital.

Mr. Ellis, for some time past city editor of the Free Press, has severed his connection with that journal. His place, as far as one can understand, will be taken by Mr. Sam. Gough. Word has been received here from the Yukon to the effect that Alderman Lamb, who left this city in the spring last for the Klondyke, will return at once. The whole party, who had arrived safely here, at latest mail advices, building cabins for the winter. They had narrow escapes from losing their provisions from fires, which were luckily put out by a hail storm. This storm blew down a tree near one of the claims on the creek, killing one of the miners, whose name is not given, but he is not a British Columbian.

There seems to be some mistake made in the Victoria papers in regard to the name of the boat while on its way from Juneau to Skagway. Those belonging to Nanaimo are Hector, McLellan, son of Donald McLellan, of the Five Acre Blocks. Hector was a native of Sydney, C. B., and was a member of the Nanaimo Orange Lodge; Thomas Trellian, step-son of Abraham Turner, of this city, and William McDonald, son of Mr. John McDonald, of the Newcastle townsite. Those rescued were Robert McDonald, the whistler, of Wellington, and James Dudley, of this city.

The steamer Bristol, conveying the steamer Eugene for St. Michaels, passed up about 5 o'clock last evening. The Wellington agricultural exhibition will take place at Wellington on September 4. This promises to be an improvement on last year.

Everything that can be done to make the forthcoming harvest meet at Wellington a success is being done. Many fishermen are visiting the Nanaimo lakes and other lakes, access to which has been opened up by the Nitinat trail. They report magnificent fishing, the fish being large of good quality and very game.

A mass meeting of all the miners is called for 3 o'clock this afternoon to take into consideration business of importance. At the residence of the bride's father, Mr. Donald Ferguson, Haliburton street, a very pretty wedding took place this morning at 7 o'clock, when Miss Jessa Ferguson was united in the holy bonds of matrimony to Mr. Geo. Vipond, son of Mr. Geo. Vipond of this city. Rev. T. W. Hall, of the Wallace street Methodist church, performed the ceremony. The young couple were the recipients of many useful and valuable presents. Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Vipond, who left on the train this morning to spend their honeymoon on the Sound, were accompanied by Mr. Geo. F. Cane, returned from Victoria this morning, and Mr. T. G. Rothwell, law clerk of the interior department, in regard to the proposed commission to be held here

shortly in connection with the settlers' rights in Cedar Bay. Mr. Rothwell expects to arrive on Saturday, 11th, and in all probability the commission will be opened on the following Thursday, when the matter of rights will be thoroughly gone into by Mr. Rothwell. Miss Barber will accompany Mr. Rothwell as private secretary. The commission may possibly remain open for two or three weeks.

Yesterday the Free Press announced that Mr. H. Peterson, of Gabriola Island, brought to town a coat that had been found by his son Robert on the beach near the entrance between the Flat Top and Gabriola Islands. This morning Mr. M. G. Clarke, the light-keeper at Entrance Island lighthouse, Gulf of Georgia, paid a brief visit to this city. To a Free Press representative Mr. Clarke stated that on Wednesday or Thursday evening of last week he noticed a small sail boat, evidently beating up towards the lighthouse from the Flat Top. It was blowing very strong at the time, and the wind changing, the boat then evidently made an attempt to reach the entrance at the Flat Top islands. Mr. Clarke kept his glass on the boat, for several minutes, and saw that the person or persons in her were in extreme danger. At that moment Mr. Robert Westmoreland, the assistant light keeper, asked Mr. Peterson if he would like to go down to see the boat, and he went down a minute, but on again looking through the glass the boat could not be seen.—Free Press.

NEW WESTMINSTER.

A Chinaman, Ah Kipp, who was committed to the Victoria jail for an assault upon A. Luser, by W. H. Ladner, J.P., and who was brought up to the provincial jail in custody of Constable Jordan, appeared yesterday before Mr. Justice McCreight for trial. He was bound over to the assizes. Shortly after his election an application for bail was made by Mr. Jordan, of Messrs. McBride & Clinch, and by consent of the crown the bail was taken in the sum of \$500 and two sureties of \$250 each. The accused was then released.

Messrs. Armstrong, Dickinson and Burr returned from Nelson on Saturday, after having taken up the prisoner Wood. Mr. Justice McColl returned to town yesterday and will hold chambers. The \$200 boat which was stolen from the Phoenix cannery on the 13th inst. has been recovered at Tacoma, and the man who stole it has been arrested and held for trial at Tacoma.

Mr. Herbert Cancellor, provincial constable at North Bend, arrived in town yesterday, after having been in the Victoria jail for two months in jail for supplying liquor to Indians at North Bend. Mr. Cancellor was accompanied by his wife. Two Indians were brought here on Friday last by Government Agent Wood of Yale, for different terms of imprisonment for stealing rides on the C.P.R. Investigation has shown that young men from Westminster, accompanied by a white man, were the party who practiced the act of acting in an unseemly manner, but they were as well for these people to understand that although Port Moody is in the "country," the inhabitants of that place are entitled to a certain amount of consideration and respect.

The steamer Transfer brought up 2,850 cases of canned salmon from the Richmond cannery on Sunday evening for shipment per C. P. R. The steamer Dunsuir arrived here yesterday morning with 1,500 cases of canned salmon for shipment per C.P.R. The steamer Willis arrived here yesterday with Mr. J. Sprout, Mr. Bonson and a party of about 12 men from Harrison Lake and will proceed at once to the municipality of Coquitlam to build a wharf on the front street, and all their outfit.

The warehouse of the C.P.R. is packed to its utmost and a quantity of freight has to be landed at the other wharves in the city. This is owing to the quantity of cases of salmon arriving here for shipment to the Old Country and to the East. Four carloads of cattle arrived per C.P.R. last night for Victoria and Nanaimo. One car for Mr. Lapointe also arrived yesterday.

Frank, an eighty-year-old son of Mr. P. O. Biolden of the Depot Hotel in this city, was severely bitten in the leg by a Newfoundland dog. Dr. Drew was called in and as soon as he arrived the father started off with a rifle to hunt for the dog. He was finally cornered under a wharf on Front street, and three bullets put through his head.

The lacrosse match between the lawyers and insurance men will take place on Monday next, when some good fun may be expected. STEVESTON. Steveston, Aug. 20.—Our good town is now very quiet, except in the neighborhood of the Chinese and Japanese quarters. There have been still a considerable population, and not a little national rivalry. An instance of this came before the court a few days ago, when charges and counter charges came before the magistrates for investigation, and as the result each had to pay a fine of \$5 and costs. During the hearing a Jap at the door became unruly and had to be ejected by the police.

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from parties who held bundles of Victoria receipts. They will be of great value, but very small. In two years' time its size will have to be doubted. However, we are thankful for small mercies, and we hope long before then to have the control of the civil affairs of the province in our own citizens.

Mr. Phillips' auction sale of land and other things was held on the 28th inst. A few sales were made, but land is not yet in demand, though great bargains were offered. It is becoming more and more evident that the citizens of this district must face the question of a suitable water supply in the near future. The supply will need to be liberal one to meet the summer's requirements. Farmers and citizens all alike need to get it. The source of supply is the great difficulty. Westminster has none to spare, and so to the Logjam direct would mean an enormous cost. Vancouver has been suggested, but there also the supply may soon be needed.

Harvest operations are now well advanced. The steam thresher is hard at work in the neighborhood and a bountiful crop is being stored up. A vessel of about 100 tons, for fishermen was heard in the "fishy" court yesterday. Wm. Kelly sued the Fraser River Cannery Company for the price of fish delivered to them in terms of contract. The plaintiff appeared for the plaintiff and Mr. Russell, barrister, Vancouver, appeared for the defendants. By the contract the plaintiff was to be allowed "current daily rates" for his fish, and the defendants were bound to purchase all he caught if they could pack them. There was a further provision that the rates should be posted up daily on the black-board at the cannery. During a part of the season the cannery had posted up 8 cents for a certain number and 5 cents for all delivered beyond that. The amount at issue in this case is comparatively small, but it will require a long trial. The plaintiff contended that the "current daily rates" were not a mere cannery rate fixed by the company at their will, but referred to the rates commonly allowed on the river. The defendant's evidence was given to show that there was practically a uniform rate among the canneries, and further that a part of the season the manager had posted up 8 cents for a certain number and 5 cents for all beyond that, and later the prices posted were 6 cents up to the limit and 5 cents beyond. The amount at issue is about \$13. After hearing the evidence the magistrate gave judgment in favor of the plaintiff for costs. An appeal was taken by the defendant's counsel to the county court.

Two Japs were brought before the magistrate on a charge of attempting to strangle a white man. Mr. Philip appeared for the accused, but as chief witness for the prosecution was not to be found, the case was at once dismissed. It has happened no small stir among the police, and the court house was crowded with them. At the time the case was disposed of, Hon. T. Noose, Japanese consul, who had a seat on the bench beside the magistrate, briefly addressed his fellow countrymen on the dangers of drinking and eating in a quarrel with their neighbors, and exhorted them to be good citizens. His remarks were well received by all.

KAMLOOPS.

C. A. Semlin, M.P.P., came up from Ashcroft Saturday and spent the day in town. He will visit Nicola and East Yale in the course of the next few weeks. Hon. G. M. Martin, chief commissioner of lands and works, arrived in town Sunday night, having made an extensive tour of the Kootenay and Boundary Creeks districts. Mr. Martin will visit Nicola before returning to Vancouver, and enjoyed his trip south immensely, notwithstanding the numerous "kicks" he encountered.

Geo. McL. Brown, executive agent of the C.P.R. for British Columbia, spent Saturday in town. He has been making an extensive tour of the Kootenay districts and will shortly go through Cariboo. Mr. Brown stated that from one end of the line to the other business is good. This promises to be the banner year for the C.P.R.

A convention of railroad men, representative of all the branches in the Pacific division, will be held in this city about the 10th of September next. They will be the representatives of the general conductors, telegraphists, brakemen, trainmen, engineers and firemen.—Taland Sentinel.

CROW'S NEST RAILWAY.

An engineering party under Mr. Garden has been busy this week surveying the line into Fort Steele. Another storehouse 25x30 feet is under construction, and in a few days a storehouse for perishable goods, two stories, 20x40, will be commencing. A powder house is under way, situated one mile from the wagon road, also a root-house with a capacity of 200,000 pounds of vegetables.

General Superintendent White went through via Revelstoke to Rossland Monday. They will reach Fort Steele in a few days from the west. Engineers Morse and W. J. Carroll passed through from the north this week. Mr. John H. Johnston, party, and Morse will act as assistants to Cranston.

Twelve miles of difficult rock work on Moyle Lake is to be begun this fall as soon as possible, and will be continued until completed. This will employ some hundreds of men during the winter months.—Fort Steele Prospector.

The annual harvest festival of St. Mary's, at Metchoin, will be held on Wednesday, September 8. There will be a bazaar in the afternoon and dancing in the evening.

COL. DOMVILLE FOR THE YUKON

How the Gallant and Light-Hearted Domville Will Peg Out Claims.

Difficulties Disappear Like Morning Mist Before His Irrepressible Enthusiasm.

(From the London Weekly Sun.)

A representative of the Weekly Sun, knowing the intense interest felt in the new Eldorado in the Yukon district, of which everybody is now speaking, paid a special call recently on Colonel Domville, M.P., of Canada, at his hotel, the Hans Crescent. Colonel Domville is a very busy man just now, for the universality of the desire to utilize his information and his services has made him almost as popular as a colonial premier.

"But Colonel Domville spared me a few minutes," continues our representative, "and I learned in that time more about the gold fields than I have gathered from all the accounts in the newspapers." This is a summary of the interview: "First, Colonel Domville, would you mind letting me know how you came to be interested in this region and to be in London at this moment?" "I must submit," replied the colonel with a laugh, "to finding that fame, even in these days of the telegraph, is not as widespread as it might be. In Canada I would be shocked to find that anybody did not know that I was one of the officers who had been delegated by the Canadian parliament to come over and be present at the jubilee. It was a little compliment to me as an officer and as a politician, which I accept with thanks. When I started for London I had no more idea that I would ever be engaged in anything but jubilee business than you. I have been a member of parliament off and on for a quarter of a century, sometimes successful, sometimes unsuccessful, and I have always taken a deep interest in my regiment, the Eighth Hussars, or, as we call it, the 'Princess Louise's'; but the politician and the officer at the moment are swallowed up in the explorer, for out of many officers I have accepted that of the Clondyke, Yukon and Stewart Pioneers, Limited, to head an expedition to the Clondyke region."

"And now, colonel, what is your view as to the new Eldorado?" "If you will take me a long time to tell all my views; but summarizing them rapidly, I may say that the reports of the auriferous character of the region are not exaggerated. The district in which gold can be found covers an area of 250,000 square miles, and gold is found in great abundance. We have known that for some time in Canada, but we have not succeeded in attracting the attention of the investing public until, all in a flash, Clondyke was won, and Hon. Lord Dufferin found himself famous, and the whole world is now aware of our resources. To show you that the reports are not exaggerated, I may call your attention to one fact; you have seen a great deal about the Yukon river, and have heard anything about all about the Stewart; and yet the Stewart river has quite as much gold, if not more, than the Yukon."

"Are the reports of the inaccessibility and of the terrible climate in these regions exaggerated?" "Well, they depend on the point of view. To us Canadians, of course, extremely cold weather has not the terrors that it offers to you who dwell in these temperate climes. For instance, I go to the Yukon in a light overcoat and with the same underclothing in winter and summer in districts where the thermometer sometimes descends to as much as 20 below zero. But I don't wish to deny that the Yukon district does have a winter of extreme severity, and that if a gale should be blowing when my men get there they will have to remain inside their shanties."

"But on the question of getting there before the winter sets in, Colonel Domville, what have you to say?" "I have no doubt, though I cannot answer for other people and other expeditions. I have all my plans already laid; after all these years of life in Canada I know my men; just the same if you wish to send those who will suit; and with such an expedition I haven't the smallest doubt of my being inside the Yukon district within a comparatively short time from now, and being prepared to take up claims during this winter through my men."

"Have you any objection to telling me some of your plans?" "Not the least in the world, for their success depends, if I may say so without egotism, on the personality of the leader and the members of the expedition rather than on anything else. I shall leave London in about ten days from now. I have already forfeited one ticket. I am not going to forfeit another. I shall collect my men in a short time where I can lay my hands upon them. They will be about 30 in all."

"What about your stores?" "I intend to lay in stores for a year, and I shall get them in different points—just as circumstances dictate. For instance, one gets flannels best in one centre, four best in another, and so on; but I shall take care that they are thoroughly well equipped, and that there will be neither danger of even risk on that score to those who commit their fortunes and lives to my charge. From Vancouver it is by steamer to the Lynn canal. So far it is all plain sailing. It is a voyage of some 1,200 miles, and the danger is part of the journey by September. Then comes the difficult part of the business. I shall go by what is called the White Pass; it is a nasty bit, but where we shall require our energy and perseverance. However, I have made due allowance for that bit, and I calculate we shall be able to have all our

men and all our supplies over and in the gold-bearing district by the end of October."

"And then the winter?" "Yes, then we shall be in full winter; but I shall have all our preparations made for making that season as comfortable and safe as can be expected. Our men will fix their shanties; they will employ themselves in pegging out claims; and, being the first in the field, we look to have something really valuable for our friends and for the British market when the spring comes."

"How do you propose to get to the Stewart river, by the way?" "Our men will build the boats when they reach the proper points, they will form a camp and there start on their work of pegging-out claims. As we shall have a year's supplies you will see that our position will not be very lonely. Besides, I have an idea of putting ourselves in telegraphic communication with the outside world; you can have a wire at the cost of £3 a mile."

"And now," said Colonel Domville, "permit me to say good-bye. I am sorry to dismiss you so soon; but my cab waits me, and as Sir Wilfrid Laurier, the leader of my party—I am a stout party man—is on the other side of the channel, and has been kind enough to give me an appointment, I cannot miss my train."

The man with whom this remarkable interview took place has all the external attributes of the bold, daring explorer, cool-headed as well. He is slightly but strongly built, speaks coarsely and rapidly, has grim determination softened by the spirit of compromise and good fellowship which political struggle teaches. I left Col. Domville with the strong impression that the man who has in their service are lucky and experienced, so full of his subject, and so resolved that justice shall be done to those who trust him.

NEWS FROM SIBERIA

A Holland Engineer Tells of the Increasing Traffic on the Amoor.

A passenger who came over on the R.M.S. Empress of China was F. G. Wentz, an engineer in the service of the Amsterdam firm of Werf, Conrad & Co. He is on his return to the land of his birth after two years' work on behalf of the Czar on the Amoor river, which is in Siberia, quite close to the northern boundary of China, in fact a portion of it, makes a boundary line between the province of Manchuria and the domain of the Russian empire. It is very busy place; merchants are trafficking largely by its means and a consequence there is much travel on the river. The military authorities also require a great deal of transportation, for every day contingents of Russian soldiers are to be seen moving up and down the Amoor. Mr. Wentz, while there, superintended the building of five small, light draught, river steamers, stern wheelers, capable of carrying about three hundred passengers, and several small yet powerful tug and a number of barges. His labors were for the most part convicts and Chinese. His workshop was on the Amoor's banks opposite the convict station on Saghalien Island, and every morning his contingent of "exiles" were brought over and sent to work. Of their prison life he knew nothing, as the visitors are not allowed in Russian prisons. Of the Russian prison, however, he says that as far as he could see they were not so bad as they were painted. They were not so bad as they were painted. Improvements had been made mainly in the matter of food. The "exiles" deserved their punishment, but then he said he could not know whether they did or not, for of their crimes they dare not speak, not even to their fellow prisoners.

Mr. Wentz has also been dredging the Amoor for gold, but what success he has had he will not say. All his gold went to the Russian government and he got his wages. He is silent regarding the gold to be found there, but this he will say, it is a very rich river. It is, however, far different to the Clondyke, for there is no recording claims there, no individual miner can come and set up his stakes and then begin to dig, for if he did he would soon find himself on the convict island of Saghalien. All miners who wish the auriferous gravel are there for the Czar of all the Russias, and what gold they discover goes to his ministers to be stamped with his inscription. That is the way with the Amoor, and any company or individual miner, and all under government control and all who have obtained permission to dig—it is extremely necessary to do so before starting—must forward all their findings to the authorities before they receive a percentage. Mr. Wentz left Xataroffsky in June last and made the journey to the coast in sleds, wagons, on snowshoes and in every way that was available. The roads are very bad and travel is very difficult. He left Vladivostok on July 10th for Yokohama. Vladivostok—Russians are seemingly not superstitious—in its vicinity. Three Russian men-of-war were stationed there when he left.

Other passengers on the Empress were Baron Georges de Wyneken and Baron Bonnet, two Russian gentlemen who are now on their way homeward to the land of the double-headed eagle. The former has been of late in Siberia on business for his country. But, as behooveth a Russian who would find favor in the eyes of the Czar, he is silent as to its nature. J. A. Watte was one of the globe trotters. Mrs. D. E. Brown is the wife of the C.P.R. agent at Hongkong; Dr. W. L. Ludlow is a Seattle man returning from the Orient; J. D. Atkinson, Jr., who goes to Europe to complete his education, is the son of Rev. Mr. Atkinson of Shanghai; Madame Fried is a vocalist who has been singing in the Orient. She is on her way to New York, but perhaps prior to journeying onward she may be heard in Victoria. She is endeavoring to make arrangements with Manager Jamieson. Mr. Sale, wife and family, of Yokohama, are on a pleasure trip. In all there were upwards of sixty saloon passengers.