

# ON THE SKEENA'S TURBULENT WATERS

A Trip from Port Essington to Hazelton by this Beautiful Northern Waterway, Described by a Colonist Special Correspondent.

In the lower canyon settlements the Skeena river has got an extremely bad name. Indeed, the usually expressed opinion is that it is entirely outside of the region of navigation possibilities, and that the country surrounding it is barren and valueless, and inhabited only by a few Indians and Quikote missionaries whose acquaintance no white man is likely to cultivate. Give a dozen names and it sticks to him" is true of the Skeena, for although today it is one of the most important rivers in Northland and has many thriving settlements as well as one well-served on its banks, it still has the reputation of having ten years ago when the Hudson Bay Company were sole freight carriers on its waters, when it was so frequently and almost entirely by Indian canoes and packers—and even today currents and tried to make headway through them. Things are different today, and while the river is not any means a glassy sheet of water, it can be navigated, and that without the loss of either canoe, steamer or life. From Essington, at the mouth of the river, is a town of no mean distinction; its inhabitants think it is the most important place between Skagway and Vancouver, and well worthy of being called the capital of the Northland. It is built on an elevation overlooking the mouth of the river, and its population of whites, Slavages, Mongolians and Japanese cannot number at this time of writing very much less than 900, and this number will be increased when the fishing season is well under way to nearly double that amount. Some of its buildings are splendidly built. It has two churches, half a dozen stores, two good hotels, three canneries and a number of minor concerns that speak well, each in their own way, for the future of the community. Perhaps the man who has had more to do with the development of Hazelton, and also of the Skeena, than any other is Mr. R. Cunningham, who is one of the best types of the successful

capital of the Northland. It is built on an elevation overlooking the mouth of the river, and its population of whites, Slavages, Mongolians and Japanese cannot number at this time of writing very much less than 900, and this number will be increased when the fishing season is well under way to nearly double that amount. Some of its buildings are splendidly built. It has two churches, half a dozen stores, two good hotels, three canneries and a number of minor concerns that speak well, each in their own way, for the future of the community. Perhaps the man who has had more to do with the development of Hazelton, and also of the Skeena, than any other is Mr. R. Cunningham, who is one of the best types of the successful

R. CUNNINGHAM'S STORE & HOTEL, PORT ESSINGTON.

The proverbial foxglove is to be the proprietor of a canneries, store, hotel, and general contractor. This is the first of its kind on the Northern coast, and will have solved for Mr. Dryden the difficulties of transportation, and enable him to bring his ore to the freight carrying steamers of the C. P. N., which call at Essington every week.

Passing the entrance to the Otterall the Hazelton ploughs it way against the strong currents of the Skeena, now driving through the surf of some rapids, now through billowing eddies of some densely timbered island, that is the home presently of an Indian trader, and who is one of the best types of the successful

business man found in Canada today. Coming to the place forty years ago, when nothing in the shape of a village, was seen, he established his post, and in a short time gathered up his goods in Indian trade, and in the course of years managed to get a considerable number of the dusky folk to ship his goods in trading posts, and from this small beginning has come the town of today. Apart from being an Indian trader, which way Mr. Cunningham is "the heap big man" of the interior—he, along with his son, Mr. George Cunningham, are successful operators of a modern equipped saw mill, a salmon packing business, an up-to-date hotel, and a general store,

arrives with a saddle horse, and it may be a pine cone in a white with a private secretary and a valet, and the den is usually the next day at 10:15 degrees as correct. He also carries a shot gun necessary as his squaw. Some time in the night hours, the tourist could do with a little less dog at all places when one has perhaps been on the trail for hours, and has lain down to sleep in some Indian house, to be entertained with the united chorus of the dog howling and barking all night long. When they are hungry, when they are tired, when they are cold, and when they are in need of a blanket, they will attack a man, and it is only by the use of a club or a knife that they can be kept off.

From Mining Record.

The State of New York has, of course, the largest number of savings bank depositors. In the aggregate, wealth and the individual resources of the people of the United States, in enlarged foreign markets for American goods and currencies, in building operations, in the extension of railroad mileage, in bank clearances, and all items of commerce, there has been an enormous increase in the United States in the past six years, but in only one respect perhaps has not been its growth in wealth been so conspicuous as in the increase in the number of savings bank depositors and of their aggregate deposits.

From Mining Record.

business man found in Canada today. Coming to the place forty years ago, when nothing in the shape of a village, was seen, he established his post, and in a short time gathered up his goods in Indian trade, and in the course of years managed to get a considerable number of the dusky folk to ship his goods in trading posts, and from this small beginning has come the town of today. Apart from being an Indian trader, which way Mr. Cunningham is "the heap big man" of the interior—he, along with his son, Mr. George Cunningham, are successful operators of a modern equipped saw mill, a salmon packing business, an up-to-date hotel, and a general store,

From Mining Record.

From Mining Record.

going up one minute we were in an effort to reach the boat round square in the cliffs, but good enough to get the boat in hand, and with a sweep the main current is reached, and at the rate of 30 miles an hour the plunge is taken downwards into calm waters. Passengers are usually advised to leave the steamer at the entrance to the canyon and walk around and the current road to meet her again as she comes through so that in this way no damage is done to the steamer. The completion of the journey is now through more open country. The mountains fall away to right and left, and there are good sized rivers bring their waters in to swell the parent stream. The usual Indian villages are again encountered, and we notice that they are there, there also is the best land in the district. This seems a hardship on the white settlers, for the land would be a Godsend to them, but to the Indian it is only a camping ground, that they do not know how to utilize. Restrictions are the curse of the Skeena, but being



KISPIOX MOUNTAINS, SKEENA RIVER.

altogether wasted. An opportunity was given us to visit a good many mines in the neighborhood, and incidentally to study a few brands of the Skeena. The miner is cosmopolitan, certainly, he is also a clansman in no way as they can be made, but talking them all through a better class of men is not to be met with than the gold seekers of the Skeena. One man may be a university graduate, he can sit down and give beans to the ordinary traveler in discussing the why and wherefore of philosophy, theology, and all the otherologies in the world. Another is the miner, born and bred, he sees daylight first among the mountains, he becomes a prospector when other boys are going to school, and when

From Mining Record.

the mercury seldom falls to zero, and snow for the past three years, and been more than 18 inches deep. Around it all along the river banks game is plentiful and the streams are splendid fishing grounds. The mountains are of quartz bearing, and were it not for the difficulties of transportation, this region is certain to become the Eldorado of the North. The full steaming time to Hazelton was exactly 40 hours, and the return 10 hours, making a round trip possible under certain circumstances of water of not longer than two and a half days.

## GROWTH OF SAVINGS BANKS.

There Are Now 6,400,000 Depositors With \$2,640,000,000 To Their Credit.

In the aggregate, wealth and the individual resources of the people of the United States, in enlarged foreign markets for American goods and currencies, in building operations, in the extension of railroad mileage, in bank clearances, and all items of commerce, there has been an enormous increase in the United States in the past six years, but in only one respect perhaps has not been its growth in wealth been so conspicuous as in the increase in the number of savings bank depositors and of their aggregate deposits.

From Mining Record.

From Mining Record.

From Mining Record.

From Mining Record.

From Mining Record.

## CLEANEST PLACE IN THE WORLD

The Original Spotless Town in the Northern Part of Holland.

Far up in northern Holland, among the dykes of the Green Wilhelmina's little kingdom, lies the original Spotless Town. The palings of the streets are paved with white bricks of many colors. The houses are painted in black, grey, purple, light blue, or pale green. The doors are painted and glazed. For hours you may walk about the streets at the will of the wind, and you will find that the streets are so clean that you can see your reflection in the pavement. The houses are built of brick, and the walls are so smooth that you can see your reflection in them. The streets are so clean that you can see your reflection in the pavement. The houses are built of brick, and the walls are so smooth that you can see your reflection in them.

From Public Opinion.

From Public Opinion.

From Public Opinion.

From Public Opinion.

From Public Opinion.

From Public Opinion.

From Public Opinion.

From Public Opinion.

## THE CASE OF MR. H. F. PAGE

Spokane Paper Comments on the Inconvenience He Has Suffered.

In "The Ranch," published at Spokane, Mr. H. F. Page, of Malheur, is the following letter in regard to the trouble he has experienced with the Spokane paper comments on the inconvenience he has suffered.

From Public Opinion.

From Public Opinion.

From Public Opinion.

From Public Opinion.

From Public Opinion.

From Public Opinion.

From Public Opinion.

From Public Opinion.

## THE OFFICERS OF THE OFFICERS

Arm Chair Critics Who Freely Blame the Fighting Men.

From the Spectator.

From the Spectator.

From the Spectator.

From the Spectator.

From the Spectator.

From the Spectator.

From the Spectator.

From the Spectator.

From the Spectator.

## THE CASE OF MR. H. F. PAGE

Spokane Paper Comments on the Inconvenience He Has Suffered.

In "The Ranch," published at Spokane, Mr. H. F. Page, of Malheur, is the following letter in regard to the trouble he has experienced with the Spokane paper comments on the inconvenience he has suffered.

From Public Opinion.

From Public Opinion.

From Public Opinion.

From Public Opinion.

From Public Opinion.

From Public Opinion.

From Public Opinion.

From Public Opinion.

## RATTLED BRIDGROOM'S MISTAKE

A young couple were married in Spokane, Idaho, and the bridegroom's mistake was that he had no money to pay for the honeymoon.

A young couple were married in Spokane, Idaho, and the bridegroom's mistake was that he had no money to pay for the honeymoon.

A young couple were married in Spokane, Idaho, and the bridegroom's mistake was that he had no money to pay for the honeymoon.

A young couple were married in Spokane, Idaho, and the bridegroom's mistake was that he had no money to pay for the honeymoon.

A young couple were married in Spokane, Idaho, and the bridegroom's mistake was that he had no money to pay for the honeymoon.

A young couple were married in Spokane, Idaho, and the bridegroom's mistake was that he had no money to pay for the honeymoon.

A young couple were married in Spokane, Idaho, and the bridegroom's mistake was that he had no money to pay for the honeymoon.

A young couple were married in Spokane, Idaho, and the bridegroom's mistake was that he had no money to pay for the honeymoon.

A young couple were married in Spokane, Idaho, and the bridegroom's mistake was that he had no money to pay for the honeymoon.

A young couple were married in Spokane, Idaho, and the bridegroom's mistake was that he had no money to pay for the honeymoon.