

CERTAIN BIG THINGS IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

A Partial Account of the Wealth Actually Produced by the Province, With Understandable Deductions.

(From Saturday's Daily.)
The biggest "big thing" in British Columbia is British Columbia itself. Its total area of land and water is 250,000,000 acres, while that of the British Isles is only 77,833,984. This province is three and a half times as large as Great Britain and Ireland with only five one-thousandths of its population. As a corollary, therefore, the next best thing is apparent. It is the large area of land for every head of the population. Every man, woman and child in this province, white, red, yellow or black, could have 1,250 acres if it were equally divided up.

Of course out of this would have to be taken the 1,650,830 acres of lakes—another big thing—that all team with fish. And, in the lakes alone these fish may be termed yet another big thing. Take the steel head trout, "it readily takes a fly or spoon bait, puts up a stiff fight, taxing the skill of the angler and the strength of his tackle to bring it to net or gaff, to quote a well known authority. It averages 12 pounds in weight, though specimens from 20 to 24 pounds are not uncommon. Whitefish are found in the northern waters; the great lake and Dolly Varden trout are by no means uncommon. Are not these big things? And is not another big thing that, within reasonable restrictions, they are available to the skill and pertinacity of any follower of Esau Walton?

There are the sea fisheries also, stretching all along the 7,000 miles of seaboard of the province. Because it comes from the sea, though really a mammal, the whale must be given the position of honor. Living on this earth to-day is there a bigger thing than a sperm whale? Yet one steam whaler running out of the city of Victoria within the past twelve months has caught these leviathans of the deep to the value of \$300,000, more than recouping the company interested for its whole original outlay. To come from the whale to the herring, seems to step from the sublime to the ridiculous; but money is to be made from the "boater" or "kippered herring" for millions of pounds of the raw material for which annually visit the coast of British Columbia. At Nanaimo, the present headquarters of the curing industry, already thousands of cases are packed annually, but this industry is yet in its infancy. Is not this another "big thing?"

Even the list of edible fish found in profusion along the British Columbia coast form a big thing by itself? Salmon, coho, humpback, and addition there are also herring, sturgeon, bass, colachans, smelt, perch, trout, skill, sardines, anchovies, shads, flounders, and clams, crabs, shrimps and prawns. Even the cod, so valuable in Labrador, is also present in every variety, including both red, rock and other commercial varieties. All these branches of industry are in their infancy, but full of potentialities. Some day, and that not far distant, each and every one will develop into another big thing!

In considering the fisheries of the province the ever-present "boater" thing of to-day, has been purposely left to the last. During the season of 1905 there were 50,000,000 cans of salmon packed in British Columbia, requiring 11,000,000 fish to fill them and having a monetary value of \$5,750,000. Within the ten years ending with the season of 1905 there were over 350,000,000 cans of salmon packed in British Columbia. Their value was \$77,000,000, and piled end on end, if each can was only six inches tall, they would form a column over 333 miles high. Is not this another big thing?

Turning from the denizens of the deep to big things on the land, the first thing that attention first be paid to what might be called "canned sunshine," the black diamond coal. Since 1836, when an infant industry, this product was first mined in British Columbia, there have been produced from the coal mines of this province 22,827,130 tons of 2,240 pounds each. A cubic foot of coal weighs 84 pounds. The total product of British Columbia to date aggregates 700,370,000 cubic feet. This stupendous production can be no better described than by stating it would form a column, a foot square, stretching over five times round the globe at the equator, or a distance of 138,080 miles. Is not this another big thing?

Coke, too, although only first produced in 1895, helps along the story of British Columbia's big things. There have only been 1,104,648 tons sent from the ovens in the past decade, but these figures fail to give an adequate idea of what they mean. To come down to understandable things they mean that a pile of 12,000 pounds could be given to each inhabitant of the province, and the reasonable surplus of 37,155,760 pounds left over to provide for contingencies. Is not this another big thing?

Lead, also, forms no insignificant item in the big things of the province. In the eighteen years of its production, to the end of 1905, the miners of Slokan and East Kootenay delved from the bowels of the earth, according to official statistics, 891,517,075 pounds of the heavy metal, of which it takes 709.6 pounds to form a cubic foot. Counting one pound every second of every day it would take about 300 years to tally this production. The British army, not only of the motherland but also of the colonies. In 1894 was 884,095 men strong. If this lead were made into bullets every man could be provided with 460 pounds of ammunition and there would still be 2,505,275 pounds left to provide shells for the big guns. Is not this another big thing?

Comparatively speaking, even in this young province, copper is a new thing, but the mines of British Columbia since 1894 have produced 200,414,780 pounds of

that metal. Speaking of copper naturally recalls cents, and this coin, happily unknown in this province, will be used to demonstrate what the amount of copper already mined here means. The law of Canada says a cent shall be one inch in diameter and a hundred of them shall weigh one pound. Multiply the pounds of copper produced and it is seen that, even if cents were made of pure copper, there has been sufficient of that metal mined in eleven years in British Columbia to cast 20,041,478,000 of them. An easy calculation shows that each resident of this province, of whatever age, sex or nationality, would in an equal division receive \$1,002.07 in such cents, weighing slightly over 1,002 pounds. Another illustration will further accentuate the wonderful production. If all these cents were placed side by side, touching each other, they would stretch a distance of 953,537 miles—surely the largest "cent belt" in existence. This statement may be doubted, but can easily be calculated by the average reader. The statistics are to be found in the last report of the minister of mines. Thank goodness, there are other uses for copper than merely "making money." But is this not another big thing?

Gold has been mined in British Columbia since 1858, but up till 1893 was only scratched from the surface by placer miners. In the latter year lode gold was first produced and this branch has practically increased in value every year since. Low water mark in placer gold was reached in the same year, but with very few exceptions in this class of mining also there has been an annually increasing value. Since statistics were first kept there has been added to the gold of the world by miners in British Columbia 4,949,823 ounces, valued at \$104,157,761. Again taking the illustration of equal distribution among the 200,000 people resident in the province, each one's share would be \$500, with \$4,157,761 left to build roads, streets and bridges. Is not this another big thing?

Since 1887, 41,288,305 ounces of silver have been mined between the Pacific and the Rockies north of the 49th parallel. Fluctuations in value have caused ups and downs in mining, but still such a product is not to be sneezed at. Its value is \$11,293,305, and with that will conclude the present story of British Columbia's big things. The physiological and agricultural big things have purposely not been touched upon. The former are with us always, and are half not yet discovered. Of the latter, only the timber industry has yet passed its infancy, agriculture generally in the province is in posse, not in esse. An attempt will be made, in a future article, to deal with these potentialities.

Enough has been written, however, to show a portion of what has already been accomplished by a province having not more than 200,000 inhabitants.

ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH FREE FROM DEBT

LAST OF MORTGAGE HAS BEEN PAID OFF

This Pleasing Announcement Will Be Made From Pulpit To-Morrow—Arranging a Celebration.

(From Saturday's Daily.)
St. Andrew's Presbyterian church, for the first time since its construction, about 15 or 16 years ago, is clear of debt. This pleasing announcement will be made to the congregation from the pulpit by the pastor, Rev. Leslie Clay, at the regular services to-morrow. It was first mentioned at a meeting of the session, the board of management and the Ladies' Aid at a meeting on Monday evening.

There was a mortgage of \$20,000 upon the church. It was incurred some ten years ago, and the wiping out of it has been accomplished according to a generous offer made by R. P. Rithet. The annual liability was \$2,000, with interest for every year during this term, but the members of the congregation, by persistent and faithful subscription, have been able to meet all obligations, with the happy satisfaction now of knowing that the church property is free from all incumbrances.

DESPERATE PLOT TO BLOW UP A PRISON

Walla Walla, Nov. 17.—A plot was discovered yesterday to blow up the penitentiary at this place and to liberate 250 prisoners.

The prison officials found a quantity of nitro-glycerine in the cells, which had been stolen from a jute mill.

A STATE OF WAR AT KRONSTADT

TEMPORARY GOVERNOR-GENERALSHIP HAS BEEN INSTITUTED FOR THAT PORT—PREFECTURE CREATED AT BATAVA.

St. Petersburg, Nov. 17.—The state of siege which has existed at Kronstadt has been replaced by a state of war, and the authorities have instituted a temporary governor-generalship for that port.

The town and its environs have been declared in a state of ordinary defence.

A prefecture has been created at Batavia, and the authorities have placed other districts in a state of forced defence.

NO RIGHT TO OFFICE.
Judge's Ruling in Case of A. Ruef, Appointed District Attorney of San Francisco.

San Francisco, Nov. 17.—Judge Sewell has decided that Abraham Ruef has no legal right to the office of district attorney to which he was appointed by Acting Mayor Gallagher after the board of supervisors had pretended to be suspended by W. H. Langdon.

SUFFERING AMONG PEASANTS IN RUSSIA

St. Petersburg, Nov. 16.—The crop received here from 71 provinces and districts of Russia show the yield of wheat to be 15,059,000,000 pounds, and rye 38,355,000,000 pounds, which is 9,598,000 pounds below the average.

In several of the interior provinces the peasants have taken to their beds for days at a time in order to weaken the pangs of hunger, and are mixing their scanty supply of grain with pigweed to make more filling food bread.

INTERRUPTED TRIP.

Cabinet Crisis Impending in Spain and King Alfonso Has Been Called to Madrid.

Madrid, Nov. 16.—King Alfonso has been hastily recalled to this city from his hunting expedition. It is believed that a cabinet crisis is impending. War Minister Deliqu is resisting the pretensions of Generals Weyler and Polavieja to the field marshalship, vacant owing to the death of Count De Chesto.

ORANGES CONDEMNED.

Careful Fruit Inspection Maintained By Provincial Officer Cunningham—The Potato Worm.

Over five thousand boxes of Japanese oranges, the first shipment to arrive this season, were condemned by Provincial Fruit Inspector Thomas Cunningham at Vancouver a few days ago. They arrived on the Empress of China. Upon careful examination Mr. Cunningham discovered no less than five different species of scale and a lot of fungi on this consignment.

It will be remembered that when, last year, San Jose scale was found on similar shipments, the facts were published all over the province. All the oranges in stock and afloat were seized and fumigated with hydrocyanic acid gas as a measure of precaution of a temporary nature only. The circumstances were so peculiar that this con-



"BETTER TERMS" AT THE FOOT OF THE THRONE.
CHIEF BIG GEORGE (from Babine)—Chief Big Voice McBride no sell land to Indian; White Father no listen to Big Voice.

MADE RECORD RUN ACROSS CONTINENT

Overseas Limited Arrives at Quebec

Despite Delays, Canadian Pacific Train Reached Destination Ahead of Schedule Time.

Quebec, Nov. 16.—The C. P. R. over-seas mail, carrying the China mail, arrived here this afternoon at 3:30 o'clock, having made the record trip across the continent. The actual running time from Vancouver to Quebec was 79 hours and 59 minutes.

SUDDEN DEATH OF MRS. CREFFIELD

DIED IN THE COUNTY JAIL AT SEATTLE

Seattle, Nov. 17.—Mrs. Maud Creffield died shortly after 11 o'clock last night, in her cell in the county jail.

She is the third of the principals in the Holy Roller tragedy to meet sudden death.

FORESTERS' PROGRAMME.

Interesting Evenings Arranged for the Winter by Members of Court Northern Light.

The annual programme for social evenings has just been issued by Court Northern Light No. 835. A. O. F. There are many interesting events that will amuse and instruct the members during the winter evenings.

BUILDINGS BURNED.

St. Catharines, Nov. 15.—While Chas. Lahey, who resides on the Old England farm between Thorold and Stamford, and his family, were attending the theatre here last night, his barns and outbuildings were destroyed by fire.

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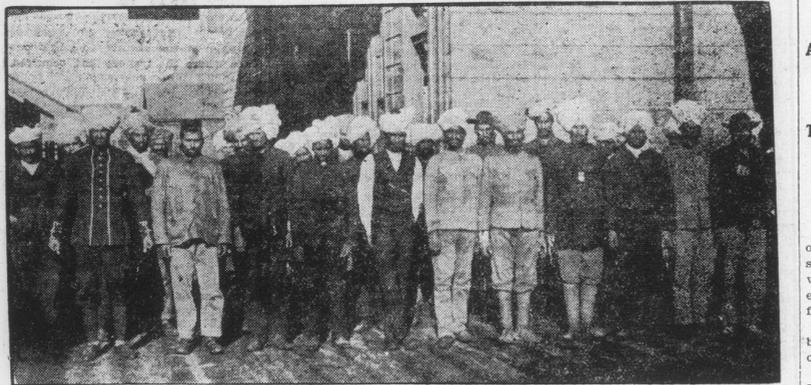
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THE HINDU INVASION OF BRITISH COLUMBIA.
Some of those who arrived on the Steamer Tartar, posing for The Times photographer. The medals puttees and bearing of several of them indicate their military training.

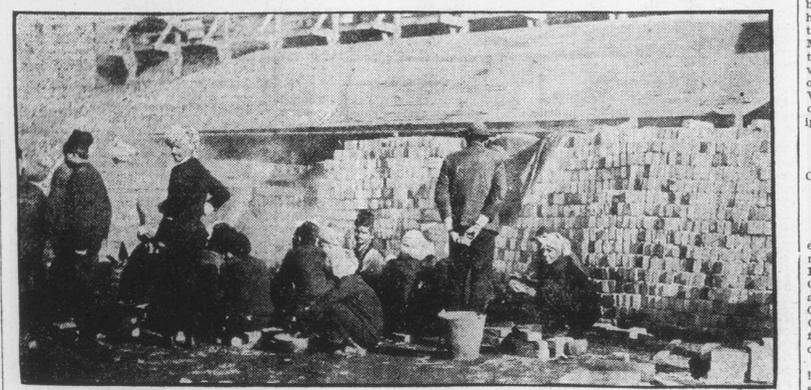
WILL BUILD ROAD TO THE COAST

MACKENZIE AND MARN SEEKING LEGISLATION

They Will Also Construct a Number of Branch Lines in the Northwest.

Ottawa, Nov. 16.—Mackenzie & Mann will apply at the next session of parliament for an extension of their line from Edmonton to the Pacific coast.

The Edmonton, Dunvegan & British Columbia Railway Co. will apply next session for incorporation. The road will run from Edmonton to Dunvegan and Port George.



THE HINDU INVASION OF BRITISH COLUMBIA.
Sikhs cooking their food on the wharf at Victoria, after debarking from the Steamer Tartar, which brought over seven hundred of them to this Province.

WIDESPREAD WROUGHT

RIVERS CONTINUE TO FLOOD

Report That Tomorrow Will Be a Day of Stormy Weather—Away—Maritime—Hottest—

Portland, Ore., has reached here this morning. It is, just opposite the mouth of the Columbia river, has been reported to-night from Seattle, T. Spokane and even east of Kelso, W.

The rainstorm from the Northwest Pacific created a condition of roads here at a state of emergency. Flooded rivers, bridges and wagon roads.

The only trains that have been able to get out of the city are the ones from the N. tracks are stalled at Bonville, and a freight train from the east is stalled at a point near the mouth of the river.

The Coville river has rapidly risen, feet above low water, and the big dam that spans the straits and Catlin was under terrific strain, and a dispatch from the Coville says that the bridge is in a state of emergency.

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Seattle, Wash., is a square mile of Newington torn by flood water from the north. The water is still pouring in from the north, with teams destroyed and bridge losses of the floods—save in life itself and appalling.

Hundreds of the will not begin to get its former condition miles are carried away. The buildings have been flooded, and the original structure of the fields that were destroyed, while in a state of emergency, before they could be driven to higher ground.

Where will it stop of the stricken, still rain is still pouring, send down their feet, the flood still almost unprecedented the country.

It is impossible to get a question that rally attempt to answer, our roadbeds, they up in a day after the week or over. We get any satisfactory all appearances Seattle for three or four days.

But those who have are the small farms who have lost their barns and swept away. Fall of lying land are either are so deeply buried in flood that they will be lost. This means ruin at least for all that stantial bank accounts.

Water Re-Seattle, Nov. 16.—The past few days have seen has turned colder and upper parts of the V is slowly receding. The greatest danger is at South Park, a near the mouth of Du the

Flood Sweeps Down to Puget Sound the rising at this point, dyke between the Puget Park was carried away with a population of 800 people is at the base.

From Yellowstone, place on the north side, just opposite the report that a number of bodies of seven of the crew of the ship Sovino in last week's storm, have been recovered and buried near the scene of the wreck.

The ship had a cargo of spruce valued at \$25,000. About two-thirds of it is still in the hold of the vessel. The balance was washed overboard.

SCHOONER IN DISTRESS.

Is in Dangerous Position North of Atlantic City.

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