

MINERAL WEALTH OF FT. MURRAY DISTRICT

Colonel Flinn, of Vancouver, Veteran Oil Prospector Returns from Visit to the North—Enthusiastic About Future of Country.

(From Monday's Daily.)

Enthusiastic over the great district north of Edmonton and its splendid prospects for the future, Colonel J. S. Finn, veteran oil prospector, progressive business man and an expert in the work of building up a new country, is a visitor in the city for a few days. He came here recently from Vancouver, where he maintains headquarters with the Athabasca Oils, Ltd., and which company he represents in the West.

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EDIT

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The oil operations in progress there. Work was started August 14, on a well eight miles from Fort McMurray and forty miles north of Fort McMurray, twelve men being constantly employed in drilling until the water flowed. A depth of 530 feet was attained. Meanwhile they struck oil in large quantities, encountering a flow of the valuable stuff that experts declare should make the well a bonanza for its owners.

The well, located about two hundred feet east of the Athabasca river, was a source of surprise to even the experienced, unimpressed Canadian.

and only valued development.

To Resume Work in the Spring.

Operations have been suspended in the hole until spring, when the work will be resumed with more vigor than ever. This will be made possible by the clearing of ice in the river during the month of April. The project is largely in the hands of Vancouver capitalists.

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"That is a wonderful country around Fort McMurray," said Colonel Finn to a Bulletin representative at the St. James hotel yesterday afternoon. In fact it is a vast empire in itself and in my opinion, destined to

come the greatest oil field in North America. I have spent many years in the oil fields of West Virginia, Oklahoma, Texas, California and Ontario, and never in all my life have I seen anything to equal the favorable conditions existing in the Fort McMurray district.

No Limit to Natural Gas.

"And there is natural gas in abundance all through that district. Why there is enough gas going to waste every day up there to supply all the heat required in the city of Edmon-

"Then there is all kinds of coal for digging in that country, sufficient to supply the whole province, and plenty of iron, too. When I return to Fort McMurray in the spring I shall make it my special business, in connection with the oil operations in which I am interested, to look into the iron prospects. Oceans of it can be found on all sides and immense

Inexhaustible Supply of Asphalt.
"I believe that in the Fort McMurray country is the greatest supply of asphalt in the world. The asphalt is found there in inexhaustible quantities will grade 98 per cent., which is 4 per cent. higher grade than the South American product, now considered the best in the market."

"With all the rest of the natural products in that district, there is an endless supply of mineral paint and asphaltum. I would not overlook the agricultural possibilities up there, either. Millions of acres of the richest soil under the sun can produce enough grain and vegetables to supply the nation.

"Of course, the one thing badly needed in the Fort McMurray country is a railroad. I believe, however, it will come in the near future, bringing Edmonton in direct communication with that district. The distance to Fort McMurray will then be shortened to about 250 miles from this city. To go by the devious ways of the Athabasca river, as at present, one has to travel approximately 350 miles."

Fort McMurray, is also registered the St. James hotel and will remain the city a short time. He is equally optimistic regarding the future of the north country and expects to see quite an influx of settlers there the coming summer.

NO NEWS OF MISSING GIRL

Vancouver, Dec. 26—Eleven days have now elapsed since Lottie Hollister was reported missing from the city.

led to come home from Sunday school, and although search has been made in every direction, the mystery surrounding her disappearance and her present whereabouts is as impenetrable today as it was that Sunday evening.

It was thought for a time that the girl might have gone to join her brother, who is in Victoria, but her brother

But he knows absolutely nothing about her and has not the slightest idea where she might be. The brother who supplied the information that it is unlikely that the girl had gone to find her father, for in the last year or two she had very little to do with him; had not seen him or spoken to him in fact, and had expressed a wish that she did not desire to see him.

But those interested in the search were unable to learn of a single person who was intimate enough with the girl to induce her to go away. The girl must have picked up acquaintances at school, and at Sunday school that Mr. and Mrs. Harvie, with whom she lived, did not know anything about her, but all the little girl's friends fail to provide any information that kind.

Vancouver, Dec. 26—Louis De
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the Gulf of Georgia in the State of
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