Story of the Heroic Struggle at Rorke's Drift

How a Handful of British Soldiers Kept 4,000 Zulus at Bay Until Help Arrived—Only Mere Remnant Was Left.

In the calendar of glorious deeds, the 22nd of January, 1879, should appear in letters of imperishable gold, for on that day the British soldier performed a deed of valor which made the whole world wonder, and which has scarcely a parallel in the history of heroism.

To Crush the Rebel Zulus.

When this day of glory and of death dawned, a handful of our soldiers were in peaceful charge of army affairs at a farm on the Natal side of the Buffalo river, across which Lord Chelmsford had led his army ten days earlier to crush the rebel Zulus. No day ever opened more gracefully, and no sun ever set over a scene of greater tragedy, for while the soldiers at Rorke's Drift were mentally picturing the victorious march of their comrades through the enemy's land, and chafing at the fate which kept them from sharing the glory of the campaign, 800 of their fellows were lying dead on the fatal field of Isandula, and the triumphant Zulus, mad with the lust of blood, were rushing in one black, impetuous horde to their destruction.

Waiting for the Enemy.

And never was a gallant body of men less prepared for such an onslaught. Their "fortress" consisted of but two flimsy farm buildings, brick-built and thatch-roofed—one of which was used as a store-house, the other as an improvised hospital for the sick and wounded. But "a fig for fear"! Their brave comrades, they knew, would make short work of the laurels of victory. And thus, with easy minds, they saw the day go by and the hour of terrible disillusion approach.

A Zulu Victory.

And now look! Away across the river two horsemen are seen spurring their steeds in a mad gallop toward the ford. "The heralds of victory," jubilantly thought the onlookers, as with loud hurrahs they greeted the riders as they neared the river; and in a few moments they were clustering clamorously around the steaming horses with their worn and anxious riders to learn the news.

Their Thirst for Blood.

A few broken words told the tragic story. An overwhelming army of Zulus had swept down on the depleted camp at Isandula, had slaughtered its occupants almost to a man, and at that very moment were rushing, thousands of them, intoxicated by victory and thirsty for more blood, to Rorke's Drift, the only obstacle which lay between them and a devastating raid on Natal.

Flight, or Fight? Which?

Probably never was more tragic news brought from the field of war. In a moment the scene of peacefulness and activity was converted into one of confusion and panic. Flight was the first thought in every man's mind, for to stay meant instant death. But a moment's reflection showed that flight was as impossible as it was ignominious. It was but a moment of of fear such as, in a mood of panic, will assail the bravest; but every man at Rorke's Drift that day was a born hero, and, under the stimulus of Lieutenants Chard and Bromhead, two of the bravest men who ever wore the Queen's uniform, it was decided to send a messenger to Helpmakaar for help, and meanwhile to defend the Drift to the last man's last gasp.

"Death or Victory."

"Death or victory!" was each man's cry, as with set jaws and undaunted heart he faced the terrible ordeal that was now so near. There was not a minute to spare; any second the destroyers might come in view. With fierce, feverish energy each soldier set to work to make the two frail sheds (they were little more) as impregnable as possible. Barricades of mealie bags, biscuit and meat boxes were hurriedly piled up; the two buildings were connected by a double rampart; scores of loopholes for rifle fire were made in the walls, and at each a man was stationed.

Within an hour the defences were made as complete as poor resources and hurried hands could make them; and with flashing eyes and beating hearts the defenders, 140 in number—for the Kaffirs had already taken to their heels—awaited the attack which they knew was inevitable. The long minutes passed, each seeming an hour. "Were the niggers not coming after all?" was the question which began to form itself in every mind, to be followed, before it could fashion itself into words, by cries of "Here they are!" as a growing volume of shouts reached the defenders' ears.

The Enemy at Last!

Then into view came at last the black tide of the enemy—thousands of them, shouting raucous war cries and brandishing assegais—an overwhelming, irresistible army which threatened to engulf at the first onslaught the flimsy fortress with its handful of holders. On they came, with a mad rush and shouts of victory, until every feature of the thousands of fierce, bloodthirsty faces was clearly visible to the eyes behind the frail walls. But see! from every loophole darts a spit of flame; a reverberating volley rings out, and scores of black bodies are prone and writhing on the ground.

Fought Like Heroes.

A moment's check, a rally, and with still fiercer shouts the Zulu horde swept on in its vast semi-circle. Again a hundred rifles barked defiance, each bullet finding its billet in the dense throng of oncomers, and again the ground was strewn with fallen blacks. Once more a pause, and a rally; and now the daring vanguard of the black army was within a few yards of the defences and between the storehouse and hospital. Caught between their two fires, a veritable tornado of lead raged in their midst, and before they could escape the ground was black with slaughtered men.

While this attack was proceeding hundreds of Zulus, from behind every rock and bush, rained a deluge of bullets on the defendens, and many a gallant heart was stilled in death; for in spite of the ramparts of boxes and mealie bags there were many vulnerable points in the walls of the buildings.

Zulus Attack the Hospital.

In the hospital, which was divided by brick walls into a number of small rooms, each barricaded, there were but half a dozen soldiers to "hold the fort" and to defend the wounded and the sick; and this building was singled out for the fiercest attacks. Bullets hailed on it in thousands, crashing mostly into the boxes or burying themselves in the mealies; while each gallant defender with deadly aim took a terrible toll of the enemy. Some of the Zulus, more reckless than their fellows, managed to set fire to the dry thatch of the roof, which in a moment was blazing over the heads of the unfortunate men below.

meet certain death; and, worse still, it meant the desertion of the poor fellows who were lying helpless on their beds of pain. No such craven thought entered any head. "Save the helpless, though I perish!" was each man's resolve. With furious haste holes were driven through the walls which separated one room from another, and through these the sick and wounded were dragged Some it was impossible to save, for the Zulus burst in before rescue was possible and assegaied defenders and defenceless alike; while in their mad frenzy some even seized the barrels of rifles at doors and loopholes and tried to wrench them from the soldiers' grasp, only to fall the next second with a bullet through their bodies, or felled by a blow from the butt.

Back to the Store-House.

Thus, through the long hours, the unequal battle raged. It was "hell let loose on earth," the horrors being heightened when darkness fell and the scene of carnage was lit up by the lurid light of the burning hospital. By exertions almost superhuman most of the hospital guard and their charges had found an escape through the broken partition walls and had joined their fellows—in sadly reduced numbers—in the storehouse; the wounded and dying being taken to the veranda, where, amid whistling bullets and flashing assegias, Dr. Reynolds ministered to them.

One Against Thirty.

Driven to their last refuge, a barricaded off section of the store-house, the small body of defenders still stood as gallantly at bay as when the first shot rang out. Time after time, through the night hours of horror, the Zulus rushed to the attack, to be hurled back by a tempest of lead and the deadly thrust of bayonets. Some even climbed over the barriers, but their shrift was short. And still the brave few, weary and blood-soaked, kept the thousands of now desperate blacks as bay. It was one man against thirty, and the one man won.

When at last the night of inferno came to an end and the day dawned, there was not a Zulu to be seen. They had retired, sated with blood and discomfited; but a few hours would bring them back, and the end must come. For the brave band of soldiers, seventeen of whom had been killed and fifteen wounded, there was no respite The defences must be repaired and strengthened, the weapons of the fallen enemy (over 350 of them) collected; and when all this was done they braced themselves for a last struggle—and death.

Another Glorious Record.

But see! What is that? The two men on the store-house roof are making wild signals with their flags. Are the Zulus already coming back to the slaughter, or can it be friends who come? The signals are answered. It is friends, thank God!—friends who are in sight. The danger is past; and not death, however glorious, but rescue, awaits the gallant band.

A few minutes later cheer after cheer rang out. There is a gleam of red coats and white helmets; and, to a frenzy of wild welcome, troop by troop, mounted infantry ride up at a gallop. Strong men burst into tears—tears of hysterical joy. Safe at last!—the Zulus see it and their thousands melt away at the sight—the day of carnage and horrors is past; and every heart is raised in thankfulness that one more chapter has been added to the glorious story of the British soldier's heroism and his resolve to die rather than surrender, however great the odds arrayed against him. When shall the glory of this undaunted band fade? Never, so long as there beats a heart that is not dead to noble and thrilling deeds.

ENTERTAINED THE PRESS.

Premier McBride Gave Dinner to the Sessional Reporters.

(From Tuesday's Daily.)

The members of the press gallery of the provincial parliament were entertained by Premier McBride at his residence last evening. The function proved most enjoyable. Those present were, The Speaker, Hon. D. M. Eberts, J. A. Macdonald, leader of the opposition; Hon. Dr. Young, the two party whips, Thomas Taylor, M. P. P., Revelstoke, and Dr. King, M. P. P., Cranbrook; L. J. Seymour, president of the gallery, representing the Nelson News; E. A. Greenwood, the Vancouver Province; W. Blakemore, the Week; G. Sheldon Williams, the B. C. Mining Recorder; Otto Weeks, the Victoria Times; Lawrence Macrae, private secretary to Hon. Richard McBride; Gordon Smith and Neil McIntyre, the Victoria Colonist.

SPORTSMEN'S REQUESTS.

The Government Asked to Give Better Protection to Game on Island.

The delegation appointed by the recent sportsmen's meeting have interviewed the provincial government in regard to the changes in the game laws which was asked. After laying the matter before the ministers the premier said that the government would give the matter their consideration. The delegation consisted of A. E. Todd, J. Musgrave, Otto Weiler and R. H. Pooley.

The changes asked by the delegation were that the season open a month later for all game commencing October 1st. instead of September 1st, and that pigeons be included in the game laws.

That one or two tracts of land be set aside for the purposes of a perpetual game reserve on this island.

That additional wardens be engaged to patrol the islands and that a fast patrol launch be provided for the Gulf shores.

That a gun licence be exacted of all sportsmen not to exceed two dollars a year.

MASQUERADE BALL AT ALBERNI

Varied Costumes and Characters Formed Pretty Picture—Prizes Awarded.

Alberni, Feb. 17.—The masquerade ball given by the Alberni Athletic and Social Club took place on the 14th inst., Saint Valentine's day. The attendance was probably the largest at any affair of the kind yet held in the town. Over fifty masked couples were present, besides a large attendance of spectators. The costumes were most varied in character, and formed as a whole a very pretty picture. Prizes were awarded to the following:

Best represented character, by a lady—Miss Josephine Clarke, in character of "Gipsy." Perfume case, given by Messrs. Terry & Marett.

Best represented character, by a gentleman—H. C. Leslie, in character of "a courtier." Box of cigars, given by M. A. Ward.

Best comic character, by a gentleman—George Roff as "a monkey." Box of cigars, given by the Alberni hotel.

Best lady waltzer—Miss Kate Nicolas, Jardiniere, given by J. Thomson.

Best couple of two-steppers—Miss A. Nicolas and G. Hyne. Two passparte-oute views each, given by L. Frank.

Best couple of waltzers—Miss J. Clarke and D. Mackenzie; $5 given by Athletic and Social Club.

Miss Robertson as a "Grecian Goddess" was much admired, and Dr. A. D. Morgan and Harold Bishop as "two little girls in blue" were most realistic, and gave rise to some amusing situations. G. Roff's representation of an ape was very cleverly carried out and much appreciated by the audience.

HOW MATTERS THRIVE IN BELLA COOLA

Telephone Line Will Be Laid Through Valley in Near Future.

Bella Coola, Feb. 8.—A meeting of the Bella Coola Telephone Company was held on Tuesday, January 28th. The election of officers was proceeded with, the result being as follows: Iver Fougner, president; G. P. Ohlsen, vice-presndent; P. A. McBeth, secretary-treasurer; as board of directors, B. B. Brynildsen, A. Christensn, J. B. Sylvester, B. F. Jacobsen.

It was decided to offer for sale shares at $10 per share, and to sell $25,000 worth. A number are already spoken for.

The company is seeking registration and will order at once wires, 'phones, etc. The line will be laid from the wharf to Hagensburg, and as soon as possible right through to the head of the valley.

Indian Industrial School.

Rev. Mr. Ferrier and Rev. Mr. Raley paid a short visit to the valley. Rev. Ferrier is superintendent of Indian schools for the Methodist church. The two gentlemen are looking for a site for an Indian industrial school. No better one could be secured than Bella Coola on the coast, as all sorts of fruit, vegetables, etc., can be grown.

Four Feet of Snow.

Sam Gledhill, the mail carrier, returned from a trip to Anaham Lake. He reports about four feet of snow on the summit, yet travelling was very good. No doubt but that this road from Bella Colla right up into the interior is good both winter and summer.

T. Pauline has been in Bella Coola for some time. He has taken up some land and is delighted with the prospects of the valley. He is going down for a trip, but will return with his wife.

T. W. Johnson, who came into the valley about two months ago to join his brother, who, however, died just a few days before his arrival, has been ill for the past two weeks. His recovery is still doubtful. Mr. Johnson is not a young man. He is accompanied by his wife and children. These frequent cases of illness show the great need of a hospital.

Fire Was Extinguished.

Frank Johnston, who lives above Canoe Crossing, almost lost his house by fire on Wednesday, February 5th. Some men were passing and saw the flames on the roof. They ran in and found Mr. Johnston was away from home. They succeeded, however, in putting out the fire, and so saving the house.

To Advertise Valley.

A very successful meeting of the Farmers' Institute was held on February 6th, when a good number were present. Many matters of importance were discussed, one being the erection of a large hall for institute and exhibition purposes. It is hoped to build very soon. Another matter was a plan to make known the great possibilities of this wonderful valley to the outside world.

Mail Service.

The mail service here is still a very poor one. The last mail arrived on January 18th, and now it is the 8th of February and no mail in sight. It is a matter of great dissatisfaction among the settlers.

THE OAK BAY COUNCIL MET

CONSIDERABLE WORK DONE AT MEETING

Questions Relative to Water Supply and Streets Occupied the Attention.

The Oak Bay municipal council met last evening when the "terms on which private parties may be allowed to erect buildings or acquire rights on municipal lands" and "particulars of by-law for protection of municipal beaches" formed subjects for discussion. There were present Reeve Oliver and Councillors Pemberton, Henderson, McGregor, Fernie, Noble and Newton.

Reeve Oliver opened the meeting with his report of the committee to enquire into the water supply of the municipality and safeguard it by having an amendment inserted in the city of Victoria charter now before the provincial legislature. The reeve reported that while progress had been made they had not been successful in gaining their point. The city had a right by charter to appropriate all water supply within 20 miles, but the reeve with his committee objected to this right on two points. First: Oak Bay ought to have the right to a share; second: there ought to be a corresponding obligation on the part of Victoria to supply all districts at a reasonable rate. One point gained was that the city had agreed to supply the municipality in bulk and allow them to distribute from the boundary, but the city flatly refused to admit its obligation to supply Oak Bay or to allow that municipality to take pipe lines through Victoria in case it wanted to purchase water from Esquimalt. The report was adopted unanimously.

The "terms on which private parties may be permitted to erect buildings or acquire rights on municipal lands" was next read. The terms read as follows:

On lease or license only.

For proper consideration.

Lease or license only to be granted for such use and occupation as will be of public benefit and an addition to recreative enjoyment, etc.

To be subject to approval of all plans, including charges, fees, boat hire, etc.

In case of club, approval of all regulations and by-law of the club by council.

Term to be not more than five years unless in the event of permanent buildings.

With no option or renewal.

With no right to sub-let or assign without permission of council.

Option of council to cancel on any breach of covenant or for disorderly behavior.

On termination of lease tenant to be permitted to remove building if moveable wooden structure on leaving land or shore in conditions satisfactory to council.

Option of council to have permanent construction left or removed unless otherwise arranged at time of building, and always option to purchase and take over.

Access to grounds and buildings by the proper officer of the council at all reasonable times and control of signboards, advertisements, etc.

In case of a boat club or boat hiring establishment, to covenant to keep and retain a specified number of boats in proper condition for public hire and under regulations as regards safety.

This does not interfere with the general right of the municipality to sell.

The terms were taken up separately and each discussed before being passed and on the completion of this the terms were adopted.

Secretary Floyd read the particulars of the proposed by-law for the protection of municipal beaches. The particulars, which were as follows, caused considerable discussion:

No sand or gravel to be removed, except by permission of the council.

Any infringement, penalty, replace same.

No one to remove beach wood except by special order of council. In any case permits only to be given to ratepayers in the municipality and a license fee attached.

No advertisements, painting on rocks, placards, etc.

Penalties for infringements.

License fees for removal of beach wood.

Prohibition of tents and campers except under proper restrictions.

Provisions of Pound and Beach Fire by-laws.

Councillor Pemberton stated that no gravel under any consideration should be removed from the municipal beaches. Once gone, it was gone forever, and he cited a case where a stretch of the beach showed nothing but clay on account of the gravel having been taken away.

Reeve Oliver suggested that a certain reserve should be made in case the municipality wanted to use it.

Councillor Pemberton still held to his contention that once the gravel was removed the sea never returned it. He stated that the last time permission was given for the municipality to use the beach gravel about 100 loads were taken.

Councillor Henderson stated that just as much gravel came in as it was possible to take out—even if a city the size of Victoria used it.

The council decided to let the clause stand.

Advertisements on rocks caused some repartee from one or two of the councillors, but the matter was allowed to stand as at first.

A communication was read from the postmaster-general asking that some other name than "Oak Bay" be chosen for the proposed post office. It was resolved that the postmaster-general be asked to reconsider his decision, as this was the original Oak Bay.

The B. C. Electric railroad wrote asking permission to construct a pole line on Foul Bay road. The letter caused the position of poles to be discussed and it was decided that on streets over 60 feet in width the poles should be seven feet from the fences; on narrow streets they should be flush with the fence, and in exceptional cases where he engineer saw fit, the council was to decide.

Mrs. Sproule replied to the council's request that she donate a portion of her property so as to allow the beach drive to run through and complete the dirveway to Cadboro Bay. The reply stated that no benefit could be derived from the road and she refused to do it. In reply to the point that her neighbors had compiled, she stated that they were real estate promoters and not in the same position as herself.

Another letter from the same lady asked that the speed of automobiles be checked as she had recently had a $35 dress completely ruined from the mud splashes of a machine running at high speed.

The matter was referred to the road committee.

Three petitions were received asking improvements in sewers, sidewalks and streets, and were referred to the roads and bridges committee.

The boat house proposition was brought up again by Councillor McGregor, who thought the council ought to decide quickly. He pointed out that it would not commit the council in any way to resolve that the boat club promoters could go on and feel sure of the permission, but as the matter stood at present they were losing money.

Councillor Newton supported his colleague, but the discussion was not entered into with anything like the same enthusiasm by the other councillors, and on a ballot being taken the matter was dropped by a majority of 4 to 2.

Accounts amounting to $500 were referred to the finance committee and if correct will be paid.

The council then adjourned.

CLEARING WORK ON E. & N. EXTENSION

Forty Men Engaged Out of Alberni—Portable Sawmill for Cowley Ranch.

(Special Correspondence.)

Alberni, Feb. 17.—work on clearing the right of way for the railway at the Alberni end is being prosecuted with vigor. Mr. Carmichael has now over 40 men at work and good progress is being made.

New Grocery Store.

Work has commenced on the building to be erected for C. F. Bishop, where he will carry on his general grocery and bakery business, and will be rushed to completion. A. B. Wood, of New Alberni, is the contractor.

Sale of Acreage.

The sale is announced of the remaining 40 acres of A. W. Neill's farm at Cherry Creek, containing house, orchard, etc. The price is understood to have been $2,500. W. F. Gibson, the new owner, will devote his attention to raising orchard fruit, small fruits and vegetables.

P. Brandt has ordered and expects shortly to receive a portable sawmill and engine. He will locate in the first instance on the Cowley ranch and expects to have lumber on the market at a reasonable price in the near future. Mr. Brandt formerly owned and operated a sawmill in Alberni.

Will Manufacture Timber.

The formal notice appears in the B. C. Gazette of the intention of William Allen, of New Orleans, to obtain permission from the government to clear and remove obstructions from the Stamp and Somas rivers from their sources to their outlets, for the purpose of making them fit for driving and booming logs, timber. Mr. Allen represents parties who last summer staked large bodies of valuable timber in the neighborhood of Sproat and Central Lakes and the present application is indicative of an intention to manufacture the timber at an early date.

Demand for Beef.

J. Redford, butcher, was a passenger by the Tees to Victoria on Sunday. So brisk has been the local demand for beef lately that he is compelled to make arrangements to bring in fat cattle, the local supply having been practically exhausted for the present.

Arrivals in Town.

Among many other arrivals in town during the week were C. S. Lyons, a solicitor from Victoria, who will locate here with his family in the spring; T. Broad, from Abbotsford, who has made arrangements to open a meat market at New Alberni in company with W. Sproat, a son of the gentleman after whom Sproat Lake, in this vicinity, is named; F. B. Harrison and family, of Alberta, who will take up their permanent residence here, and C. Hoard, C. E., who takes charge of the C. P. R. location survey party.

DANCE AT ROSE HILL.

Many From Surrounding District Attended Entertainment.

Kamloops, Feb. 15.—Mr. and Mrs. Barnhart, of Campbell Creek, gave a very enjoyable supper and dance at their residence on Friday evening, February 7th. Guests were present from Grand Prairie, Kamloops, Stump Lake, Monte Creek and surrounding district. A pleasant evening was spent by all. During the intervals between the dances songs and recitations were rendered by several of the guests present and were much appreciated; also the Highland Fling and sword dance by Miss B. Blair of Kamloops. Music for the occasion was rendered by Messrs. Tilton Bros. and Holly, of Rose Hill. Dancing continued until 7 o'clock in the morning, closing with Auld Lang Syne and God Save he King, cheers for Mr. and Mrs. Barnhart, floor manager, musicians and the ladies. All the guests present agreed that Mr. and Mrs. Barnhart made an ideal host and hostess.

STANDARD OIL DIVIDEND.

New York, Feb. 17.—The directors of the Standard Oil Company to-day declared a quarterly dividend of $15 per share. The same amount was paid in the coresponding quarter last year.

SIMON FRASER CENTENARY.

Mrs. Hind, Only Nearby Relative of Great Explorer, Will Take Part in Celebration.

New Westminster, Feb. 17.—A lady who is taking a great interest in the proposed Simon Fraser centennial celebration has just returned to her home at Langley after spending a few days visiting her uncle, L. McQuarrie, of this city. This is Mrs. W. F. Hind, a daughter of Simon Fraser, nephew of the first white man to navigate the mighty stream which now bears his name.

Simon Fraser, the younger, was born in Rosshire, Negg, Scotland, in 1819, coming to this country in 1844, settling first in the county of York, Ont., where he remained for some time. Mrs. Hind was born in the township of Baughan, County Peel, Ont., but came west several years ago. Since 1898 she has been living at Langley Prairie, being interested in fruit culture and mixed farming. Her mother was the only sister of L. McQuarrie.

In connection with the Simon Fraser celebration, it is likely that Mrs. Hind, as the only known nearby relative of the great explorer, will be requested to take part in the ceremonies which will take place on that occasion.

WEDDING IN SKIDEGATE.

Mr. Edward Stevens and Miss Grace Russ Married at Sandspit Ranch.

(Special Correspondence).

Skidegate, B. C., Feb. 6.—Mr. Edward Stevens was married to Miss Grace Russ at Sandspit Ranch, on the 3rd inst., the Rev. J. Spencer officiating. Mr. Stevens is the owner of Sandspit Ranch, and the bride is a native of Skidegate. Both of the young people are very popular and have many friends in Victoria and Vancouver as well as in this place.

Mr. Henry Green was groomsman and Mrs. P. Kelly was bridesmaid. A large party of friends were carried over to attend the wedding by the Skidegate launch. After the ceremony a banquet was served by Mr. and Mrs. William Russ who were the hosts.

TWO BOYS MISSING.

Went Fishing in St. John—Wild Rain Storm Was Raging.

St. John, N. B., Feb. 18.—Harold Draper aged 16, and Irving Earle, aged 15, went fishing on Saturday afternoon and have not since been heard of. It is feared they have been drowned. A wild rain storm raged here Saturday night.

HEARTS WERE TRUMPS AT DUNCAN DANCE

St. Valentine's Celebration Proved Artistic Affair—Movements in Town.

Duncan, Feb. 17.—The Tzonhalem Club gave a St. Valentine's dance on Friday evening in the agricultural hall. The members of the club have artistic taste, for the hall was again most beautifully decorated by them. Three thousand hearts were used in the decorations. Small souvenir hearts were presented to the guests. It was noticeable that some of these had been pinned twice, showing that hearts had been transferred during the evening.

About seventy-five couples sat down to supper, and in the supper room, too, the decorations were hearts—even the jellies and the sweets were moulded as hearts.

Miss Heater's orchestra from Victoria supplied the music. The dancing was kept up until an early hour, and the guests were sorry that this was the last dance to be given by the club this winter.

Realty Activity.

Messrs. Hale and Scott have bought the property of Lacon Allin at Glenora. Mr. Allin has bought the farm on Somenos Lake, recently occupied by Mr. Hogan, and it is rumored that Mr. Hogan has bought a part of the townend property.

Billiard Tourney Winner.

The finals of the local handicap billiard tournament was won by F. H. Price (rec. 80), of the Tzonhalem hotel, from J. Maitland-Dougall (owes 90), on Saturday last.

Quamichan School.

Alterations are being made to the Quamichan Lake boys' school, so that boarders may be accommodated.

Miss Lola Hermann left last week on an extended visit in the States.

TO INSTALL SMELTER AT "LITTLE BERTHA"

Spokane Capitalists Satisfied They Have Made Good Investment In B. C.

(Special Correspondence.)

Grand Forks, Feb. 15.—Following the report that the Spokane capitalists who recently acquired a controlling interest in the Little Bertha mine at Bannock City were about to start a smelter at that property, comes the official statement made by Dr. Appleton of Spokane, who is the largest stockholder in the property.

Dr. Appleton in part said: "We believe we have made the best investment which has fallen to the lot of Spokane men in many a day. We have demonstrated through the investigation of Engineer John F. Wilkstrom, that there are eight leads on the ground of the Little Bertha. The company consists of 126 acres on the North Fork of the Kettle River. Engineer Wilkstrom and I are leaving for the town of Grand Forks where we expect to lay out a mill site and make arrangements for installing a compressor installed on or before March 1st. We have purchased a ten-stamp Nisson mill, which will be in operation before July 1st.

"The veins in the ore of the Little Bertha run unusually high. Scores of assays made recently show that the ore goes from $30 to $200 per ton. A recent shipment of 500 tons sent to the smelter gave returns of $55 per ton. We expect to make regular shipments after July 1st. Since purchasing the controlling interest in this property we have received several very flattering offers for the stock, but we are satisfied we have a vood thing, and intend to operate the mine ourselves."

PUNISHED UNDER NATAL ACT

JAPANESE SENTENCED TO TWELVE MONTHS

Prisoner's Consul Will Institute Habeas Corpus Proceedings in Vancouver.

Vancouver, Feb. 18.—The two Japanese who entered British Columbia last week in defiance of the Natal Act and were arrested, were this morning fined $500 each and sentenced to 12 months in jail with the option release if they gave sureties they would leave the country immediately. The magistrate at New Westminster declared he was forced to be governed by the new law.

Robert Cassidy, K. C., acted for the provincial government and D. G. MacDonnell for the prisoners. Japanese Consul Yada was present.

Mr. Macdonald this afternoon will institute habeas corpus proceedings in Vancouver to secure the release of the Japanese

GREENWOOD AS RICH MINING CAMP

Tunnel Scheme of Chicago Capitalists Will Develop British Columbia.

Greenwood, Feb. 17.—At a special meeting of the board of trade Richard Armstrong, representing a number of Chicago capitalists, outlined the tunnel proposition which has been in the air for the past month. The project was freely and favorably discussed and the scheme was given an enthusiastic endorsation by the largest meeting of the board of trade held in Greenwood for a long time.

It is proposed to use the tunnel to tap at depth all the high grade properties on the hill east of this city. It is well known that no finer ore can be found anywhere than that which the Strathmore, Freemont, Prince Henry and Crescent contain, but the expense of working them by shafts on account of breaks and faults in the drifts has hitherto made their profitable development very discouraging. At present the Crescent is showing up well, and it is understood will ship some ore next week, but if these veins can be cut where the ore bodies are larger there is absolutely nothing to prevent Greenwood from becoming the richest high-grade mining camp in Southern British Columbia.

Prince to Attend Tercentenary

London, Feb. 18.—It is declared here with some show of authority that the Prince of Wales will attend in August of this year the 300th anniversary of the founding of Quebec, by the French.

TOPSY-TURVEYTOWN, NOT ABBOTSFORD

Fraser Valley Townsite Would Appear to Be in Hopeless Muddle.

New Westminster. Feb. 18.—The town of Abbotsford, one of the best known farming and railway centres of the Fraser valley, is wondering whether it is on the map or not, owing to a rude shock which residents received last week, and complications are sure to follow.

It all happened this way. Neville Smith, provincial land surveyor of this city, was engaged to make a survey of some property in the town, when his measurements failed to come out according to the registered plans, and he set about a thorough examination of the locality to see if a mistake existed, and discovered that almost the entire townsite was wrongly surveyed and all sorts of complications resulted.

Some of the stores, according to the correct survey are located in the middle of the street, while houses stand on the railway right-of-way, and the railways run rampant over private property, while in other places the railway would be in the bed of a large stream or on top of a hill if it were in its proper location.

Mr. Smith made complete measurements to verify his discovery of the error before returning to the city, and after he had satisfied himself that an error existed he notified the V. V. & E. Railway and other parties interested, and the railway company at once dispatched Mr. Wilkie, P. L. S. to Abbotsford to prove Mr. Smith's discovery.

The matter is now in abeyance till the return to this city of the railway company's engineer, who will report to Mr. Eddy, in charge of the local office, and if the error is corroborated as is expected, work will be commenced at once to straighten out the great tangle which exists.

—On Tuesday Mrs. George White Fraser received word announcing the death of her sister-in-law, Mrs. Montague White Fraser, of Agassiz. Mrs. Fraser, accompanied by her sister, Miss Miles, left by the Princess Victoria this morning to attend the funeral. No particulars have been received as to the cause of death. The announcement came as a great surprise to Mrs. White Fraser in this city.