

Highest of all in Leavening Power.—Latest U.S. Gov't Report

Real Baking Powder

ABSOLUTELY PURE

SPLENDID FARM LANDS.

Found by Provincial Surveyors in Kootenay and Yale Districts and Easily Accessible.

A Hundred Thousand Acres in Fertile Valleys with Abundant Supply of Water.

When Mr. Kellie in the course of debate on the school lands sale bill on Wednesday mentioned a report by Mr. R. H. Lee, P.L.S., showing that there is a large quantity of available land in the Big Bend country, a member of the opposition immediately declared that without that report no discussion could not intelligently proceed. The report was presented yesterday afternoon, and proves very interesting reading. It may be stated here that it was not this particular land which Mr. Kellie said was of his constituents wanted to buy, as of course the majority of them as yet know nothing about it.

Mr. Lee's report is dated Kamloops, November 6, 1895. On his trip into the Big Bend he left Revelstoke on the 12th August, with a boat and crew of four men, and arrived at the mouth of the Canoe river, about 92 miles from Revelstoke, on the 28th August, and they returned to Revelstoke on the 27th September. With the report are two maps, a large one showing the country from the mouth of Canoe river to Tete Jaune Cache, on the Fraser river, with townships and sections, and a smaller one showing the country from Revelstoke to Tete Jaune Cache, with the camps referred to in the report. Mr. Lee estimates the cost of making the Columbia river navigable for steamboats from Revelstoke to Canoe river at \$42,000. This is what he says of the country:

There is very little agricultural land on the Columbia river until within about five miles of the mouth of Canoe river, where we entered a valley of about 12,000 acres of good agricultural land, about one-half of which is bottom land not subject to inundation, good clay soil showing ten to fifteen feet in depth at the cut-banks, with a gravelly sub-soil; the remainder lying upon low benches fifty to seventy-five feet above the river. These benches are also good clay land, no rock or gravel showing on the surface. The surface of both bottom and bench land is very level and uniform, small cedar, spruce and balsam timber and considerable bush in the bottoms; cedar, spruce, hemlock and fir on the benches, and small timber of no commercial value. The vegetation indicates considerable rainfall throughout this valley, and I do not think irrigation will be required; but if there is abundance of water for this purpose in the creeks flowing through the valley, the water would be trapped here having wintered here that the snow is from three to four feet in depth, and the timber and bushes indicate a considerable snowfall. The altitude is about 1,830 feet above sea level. The general formation is granite.

From the mouth of Canoe river to Grews Rapids, a distance of about twenty-two miles in a northwesterly course, the valley will average about one-half mile in width. It has good clay soil, with a gravelly sub-soil; small cedar and spruce timber, and considerable bush. The river is from 400 to 1,000 feet in average width, and the banks are from six to fifteen feet high, showing a good clean clay soil.

Near Grews Rapids the valley widens out from one to two miles wide, and continues the same northwesterly course to Tete Jaune Cache, on the Fraser river. It has been run over with fire, and the timber and bush in the valley, as well as upon the mountains, are a young growth. From about Grews Rapids to Tete Jaune Cache, the valley is a young growth of fir, cedar, hemlock and white pine, with small berries of cedar, and some of the timber is very large, and more particularly along the course of Putnam creek.

Devastated by fire—The valley has been covered in the past by a magnificent forest of heavy mixed timber, but the great body has been destroyed by fire, which passed through this section about eight years ago, leaving the ground strewn with their trunks and perfectly dry. The valley was visited again by the fire five or fifteen years ago, and the greater portion of the timber of all signs of vegetation; the charred trunks of the hemlocks alone remain standing, and the ground upon the upper benches.

Second Growth—A second growth is seen where the fire of last summer had not passed, consisting of willow, poplar and alder, with some patches of pines upon the more exposed slopes.

Soil—The soil for the most part consists of a reddish-brown loam, interbedded with a small shale, with a subsoil of grey clay. Average depth of soil 18 inches.

Meadows—The meadows are found throughout the valley, varying in extent from one acre to several hundred. These meadows are of the richest description, and for the most part are very easily reclaimed; in most cases the opening up and clearing out the obstructions found in the water courses being all that is required; in other portions, being thinly covered by a growth of small black birch and willow, grubbing was required. On examination of the soil I found it to consist of about two feet of rich vegetable deposit, below this two feet of fine black sandy loam, with a sub-soil of pure clay.

Irrigation—The facilities for irrigation here are simply unequalled in any other section of the district visited, small spring creeks being found almost on every mile of land traversed.

wagon road route. At this point the bushes and timber also indicate a light snowfall, and I am informed by Mr. Joseph Null, of South Thompson river, who was with a C.P.R. survey party through this country as packer in 1874-75, that they wintered their stock here and never had over eight to ten inches snow. I think the climate is very similar to that around Kamloops, judging from the general appearance of the country. The first frost of this season occurred on the night of September 18th, and previous to this there had been about two weeks' rain. There was wet weather at Kamloops corresponding with this, and frost about the same date.

We left Camp 27, at Trail Crossing, on the morning of September 20th, arriving at Revelstoke on the evening of September 27th. We were 14½ days going up from Revelstoke to the mouth of Canoe river, and 11½ days from the mouth of Canoe river to Trail Crossing, 27 (actual working days). I think the trip could be made in 15 to 20 days at a favorable stage of the river.

The Columbia river from Revelstoke to the mouth of Canoe river is not navigable for steamboats at almost all stages of the year. Neither Canoe river nor the Columbia river is navigable for a wagon road could be built through the Canoe river valley very cheaply, and this seems to me the most feasible way of bringing this beautiful valley within the reach of settlers; or the trail up the Columbia river, which ends at Smith creek, could be continued up to the mouth of Canoe river, about twenty-seven miles, and widened for a wagon road if required.

I did not see any indications of mineral along the Canoe river, but we were not out of the valley I am not warranted in saying that this is not a mineral country. The trail known as the S.W. of Tete Jaune Cache, and judging from the last cargo of mica brought down this fall the trail is promising. The trail up the Columbia river, which ends at Smith creek, could be continued up to the mouth of Canoe river, about twenty-seven miles, and widened for a wagon road if required.

At Big Bend of Columbia river, 12,000 Acres. On Canoe river, to Cranberry lake, 25,000. From lake to Tete Jaune Cache, 25,000. Total, 62,000.

TRINITY VALLEY.

The Well Established Settlers Have Proved Its Exceptional Capabilities.

A report by Mr. J. P. Burney, on the result of his explorations in East Yale, asked for by Mr. Graham some time ago, was also presented yesterday. It deals with the district known as Trinity Valley, as follows:

The valley lies within a circle of forested hills between the valleys of the Spallumcheen and Shuswap and Mabel lake; it is a valley of about eight miles long, with the western or left arm considerably longer, through which flows the principal stream, taking its rise in the valley and known as Putnam creek, the eastern arm, sweeping on to the north and east around the bases of Mount Burns and Innes, and then turning south to the south of Mabel lake. Length, about seventeen miles north and south, and some 30,000 acres of good land, suitable for agricultural and settlement purposes, at an approximate height of about eight years ago, leaving the ground strewn with their trunks and perfectly dry. The valley was visited again by the fire five or fifteen years ago, and the greater portion of the timber of all signs of vegetation; the charred trunks of the hemlocks alone remain standing, and the ground upon the upper benches.

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Irrigation—The facilities for irrigation here are simply unequalled in any other section of the district visited, small spring creeks being found almost on every mile of land traversed.

Settlement—The valley was first entered by settlers about the year 1870, and a number of records have been filed, and notwithstanding the difficulty of reaching the valley, some improvements have been made, and all are most favorably impressed with their locations.

Settlers—On meeting Mr. Nelson, premier of the province, I visited his place and found him most favorably situated, and having done a good deal of hard work on his place, with a comfortable cabin and stable built; several acres of meadow grubbed this spring; his garden, consisting of potatoes, turnips, lettuce, peas and other vegetables, show a splendid growth during our few days' stay in the valley.

beans in full blossom on July 1; imported English gooseberries, raspberries, strawberries, mint, and other herbs, showing a view of the land at the west entrance of Houston-Stewart channel so that it may be placed on the chart as a guide to a stranger making for that entrance.

At Mr. Cartwright's we found a healthy looking garden, with the usual assortment of vegetables and some four acres of wheat, sown this spring, doing wonderfully well, considering that the seed had been simply raked in, the land having received no other cultivation.

A slight suspicion of frost was noticeable on May 26th, but not of a sufficient amount to do any harm to the crops. The point west was throughout portions of the bottom lands of the Lower Okanagan on same date.

Revelstoke, the Valley.—The only means so far has been by trail cut across the mountains by the more enterprising of the settlers, but the government has a force of men employed cutting out a pack trail into the valley from the wagon road passing through Caledonia valley, leaving a point south at a point some three miles east of Lumby.

The property of this district will, as a matter of course, be divided into sections, and a wagon road to traverse the valley from south to north, with a branch road leading north and westward towards Mabel lake, the character of the country being such that it will well repay the expense of such road to the province. No working days. I think the trip could be made in 15 to 20 days at a favorable stage of the river.

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THE QUADRA RETURNS.

The Wreckage of the "Cadzow Forest" Sighted—Last Reports of the Lost Vessel.

Useful Work of Capt. Walbran—Six Dangerous West Coast Rocks Charted.

The Dominion steamer Quadra returned yesterday from her cruise in search of the Cadzow Forest, which extended along the west coast as far as Queen Charlotte Islands. No wreck or wreckage was seen or heard of however, with the exception of the total loss of the schooner Wanderer in San Josef Bay, under circumstances already related in the Colonist upon the return of the crew to this city. When the Quadra was in Quatsino Captain Walbran was informed that Mr. Leeson, of Winter Harbor, with four Indians, was at the scene of the wreck in order to save anything that might be washed on shore. The next place the Quadra reached was Nootka, where the vessel was refueled and the crew was re-equipped. The vessel then sailed southward of the prominent headland, Cape Cook, it was visited in search of the missing ship. Nothing was seen however, except a few logs and wreckage.

In Esquimalt the sailing schooners Ainoko and Louie Olsen were at anchor. Captain Daly, of the Louie Olsen, brought aboard the Quadra his log book and chart to show the fearful weather he had experienced after leaving the bar of the Columbia river in company with the Cadzow Forest, both vessels bound for the Strait of Juan de Fuca. The last seen of the Cadzow Forest from the Louie Olsen was at 10 p.m. of the 2nd of January, when the vessels were running to the northward with the wind at south. From the log book it appears that shortly before daylight the wind backed to the northeast and a few hours afterwards veered suddenly to the southeast, blowing very hard with terrific squalls; this continued until the morning of the 5th of January, when the weather cleared up and land was seen a few miles off to leeward. The Cadzow Forest was recognized as Ulelelet. Every exertion was made to keep off the shore, the storm trying to bring the ship headway this driving kept her off and the next land made was Cape Cook, 20 miles to the northward.

Captain Daly is of the opinion that the Cadzow Forest has struck on some of the outlying reefs on the west coast of Vancouver island, as being in ballast she would drift to leeward much faster than the Olsen; or, keeping too close to the Washington shore has struck on Flattery rocks. The former surmise, however, cannot well be correct, for should the Cadzow Forest have drifted anywhere on the west coast of Vancouver island some wreckage would doubtless have drifted on shore, when, with the inquiries made from place to place by the Cadzow Forest, something would have been heard of.

The sailing schooners Sapphire, Fawn and Oscar and Hattie were found anchored off Clayoquot, and the Annie C. Moore, Libbie and Walter L. Rich off the Cape of the Quadra, something would have been heard of.

It was reported to Captain Walbran at Clayoquot that no large vessel had been at anchor off there as reported by the Louie Olsen. The vessel had arrived at Clayoquot four Indians had been travelling along the beach between the two places, and reported having seen part of the bottom timbers of a vessel, with copper on them, no doubt part of the Nineveh.

From Clayoquot the Quadra called at Ulelelet and Port Effingham, Village Island, where the Beatrice, of Vancouver, was lying at anchor. The weather during the cruise was very stormy—a constant succession of heavy S.E. gales, with thick rain. A very high sea is now running along the whole of the West coast.

Captain Walbran reports that admiralty chart 2,430, of Queen Charlotte islands, is dangerously erroneous, as the trend of the West coast and the disposition of the bottom timbers of the vessel, with copper on them, no doubt part of the Nineveh.

A survey of these islands is urgently required. The sketch plan of Houston Stewart channel on chart 2,168 cannot be used as a guide unless the water is clear.

Six dangerous rocks, hitherto unmarked on the chart, were located and examined during the cruise just completed. Two of these rocks are in the narrowest part of the fairway into Nootka inlet, between Hat Island and the inlets on the eastern shore. In rough weather the sea on the inner rock breaks continually and on the outer one occasionally. The outer rock bears from the centre of Hat Island S 33° E, true, distant from the same place 2½ cables, and has 20 feet on it at extreme low water. The inner rock is half way between the outer rock and Hat Island, bearing from the rock N 35° W, true, and distant from the same place 1½ cables. The inner rock is half way between the outer rock and Hat Island, bearing from the rock N 35° W, true, and distant from the same place 1½ cables.

The other two rocks examined are in Barclay Sound, between Turtle and Mullins islands. The most dangerous is a wash at low water and is close to where 21 fathoms is shown on Admiralty chart 562. From the rock the north tangent of Turtle island bears N 56° W, true, and north tangent of Mullins island N 65° S, true. The rock is not marked by keep. Another rock in the same channel, between Turtle and Mullins islands has eight feet on it at extreme low water and is in the following position: The north passage between Walsh and Price islands in line with the south end of Turtle island, bearing from the rock N 35° W, true, and distant from the same place 1½ cables. The inner rock is half way between the outer rock and Hat Island, bearing from the rock N 35° W, true, and distant from the same place 1½ cables.

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THE CITY.

The Anglo-American Canning Co., of Vancouver, has just been incorporated with capital of \$30,000.

Court Hon. Robert Dunsmyth, No. 784, A.O.F., has been regularly incorporated under the benevolent societies act.

A new gold mining company, to be known as the 43rd Mining and Milling Co. of Cariboo, has this week been incorporated with capital of \$600,000.

The complete list of pharmacists of British Columbia is published in the Gazette of yesterday, containing the names of 71 licentiates and 24 apprentices. Of the former 54 were in business before the passage of the pharmacy act.

The funeral of the late Mrs. R. D. Davis took place yesterday from the family residence on Johnson street, where Mr. Wagstock officiated, as well as at the cemetery. The pallbearers were M. Marks, L. Lube, A. Levi, E. Frank, F. Landsberg and H. L. Salmon.

Upwards of fifty members of the W. C. T. U. attended the social gathering held yesterday afternoon at the residence of Mrs. William Grant, Point Ellice bridge. The special features of the afternoon were two interesting papers, the one by Frances Willard on the "Origin of the W. C. T. U.," and the other dealing with the excuses generally put forward for not joining the Union.

In the Divisional court yesterday, before Chief Justice Davis and Mr. Justice Drake, the appeal of Guichon vs. Fisherman's Canning Co. came up for hearing. This is an appeal from an order of Judge Bole directing defendants to give particulars of their statement of defence. The appeal was partly argued and adjourned sine die pending negotiations for a settlement. Mr. Gordon Hunter for appellants (defendants); Mr. A. Henderson for respondents.

Dr. McKECHNIE, of Nanaimo, has presented a large and handsome silver cup to the B. C. Rugby Union to be competed for as a championship trophy. The cup was received too late for competition this year. At the meeting of the executive of the union at Vancouver on March 7 the cup will be handed over for keeping for the present to the Vancouver club, they being champions for this season. The executive will draw up rules for the competition in the championship series next season.

The legislative committee of the city council, composed of Ald. Marchant, Cameron and Humphrey, had a long consultation yesterday with the city representatives in the legislature, Messrs. William Wilson, B. J. Pearce and D. R. Harris also being present as representatives of the Municipal Reform Association. The alterations in the municipal act proposed by the board of aldermen were discussed at length, and then placed in the hands of the members for submission to the legislature.

Under the chattel mortgage held by Joshua Holland, the mining plant of the Jordan coal mines at West Wellington was put up at auction by Mr. Herbert Outhbert yesterday afternoon. The highest bid was made by Mr. H. D. Harris, for \$2,000, about sufficient to cover the mortgage and expenses, and the sale was withdrawn. After the sale a brief telegram was received from Nanaimo stating that an injunction had been taken out by the assignees of the estate to stop the sale. Mr. Holland, however, is still in possession under the powers of his mortgage.

A CONFERENCE was had yesterday morning between the members of the city council and their representatives on the Jubilee hospital directorate, the latter—Messrs. J. L. Crimp, W. J. Dwyer, Charles Hayward and F. B. Pemberton—pointing out very clearly the present unsatisfactory financial condition of the hospital. Inasmuch as there is now a debt of \$9,000 against the hospital, and the necessary expenditures over-reach the revenues by about \$250 monthly, the council was asked to devise some means by which both ends may be made to meet. All details of the hospital management were given careful consideration and the subject will be taken up by the council at an early date with the hope of finding a solution of the difficulty.

SMALL DEBTS COURTS.

A return presented to the legislature yesterday at the instance of Dr. Walkem, furnishes some details of the operations of the small debts courts held by the stipendiary magistrates under the authority conferred upon them by the act passed last session. The return does not specify the time covered, but presumably it is from the institution of the courts in 1895 to the time the returns were asked for—the early part of this month. The act, it appears, was more generally taken advantage of in Victoria than anywhere else, and the transactions at this city about equal in extent those of all other places combined, the Victoria magistrates' fees bearing the same proportion to those of their colleagues elsewhere. Here is a tabular statement of the operations of the several magistrates:

Plaints Entered.	Fees Taken.
Victoria—F. Macrae.....	\$58
Nanaimo—J. H. Simpson.....	50
Union—J. Abrams.....	156
Vancouver—B. E. B. Jones.....	82
W. N. B. Jones.....	63
N. Westminister—W. B. Jones.....	22
Kamloops—G. C. Tanfield.....	35
Kamloops—G. C. Tanfield.....	11
Indre Epitaphia.....	4
Indre Epitaphia.....	18
Donald—J. F. Armstrong.....	18
Osoyoos—C. E. B. Jones.....	28

Some of the returns show only the number of plaintiffs and the amounts sued for, without the fees taken by the magistrates. At Lillooet, C. Phair tried three suits, involving \$191; at Nelson, N. Fitzsimmons, four, for \$38; and at Rossland, N. Fitzsimmons, five, for \$183. The suits settled before hearing numbered 86 in Victoria, 28 in Union, 36 in Vancouver, and 2 in Nanaimo. The total amount sued for was \$15,037 in Victoria, \$3,299 in Nanaimo, \$4,662 in Vancouver, \$6,647 in Union, and \$1,213 in Kaslo.

MINES OF TRAIL CREEK

Have Scarcely Been Touched—Rossland a Town of 40,000 in Five Years.

To Put Down "Jumping"—The Miners Will Not Object to Fair Taxation.

Mr. J. B. Jones, a distinguished Spokane lawyer, is on a visit to Victoria. Mr. Jones, like almost all Spokanites, is one of the pioneer investors in the famous Trail Creek mines. He has just been on a visit to the camp and reports all life and bustle there.

"The Trail Creek mines," said Mr. Jones to the Colonist representative, "are about to astonish the world. So far they have been scarcely touched, but every day's development tends to show that there is an enormous deposit of rich mineral in the camp. The Le Roi is beating all previous records in gold mining in the far Northwest, and the whole group of properties belonging to the War Eagle Company is showing up in splendid style. Development work is hindered somewhat by delay in patenting our mineral grants. In the case of the Great Western in which I am particularly interested, we have had no development work since last summer, but we are about to start rapid development as soon as our crown grant is issued. The Great Western and Golden Chariot is immediately east of the War Eagle and Centre Star. It has a vein of 50 feet, and if we get value as work proceeds we shall have a mine of fabulous worth. Two miles to the west of the War Eagle a rich strike has recently been made on the Jumbo, and this proves conclusively that the rich mineral is not confined to the group of properties on the Le Roi hill."

Asked as to the possibility of putting an end to jumping of claims, Mr. Jones said: "I think that jumping could be very effectively put down by enacting that a recorder's certificate, showing that assessment work had been done by the prospector, should be held to cure all mere technical defects in the location of claims."

"What is the feeling in the camp about the proposal to tax the ore product?" "As long as the government imposes only a fair tax the mine owners most certainly will not complain; but a tax on the gross output of ore all think would be suicidal in the development of the mineral resources of the country. The only fair way is to tax the net profits of a mine; and the net profit should only be fairly taxed. A 2 per cent. tax on the gross product would be not only excessive but unjust. One per cent. of the net profit of a mine will even now raise a large revenue, and inside of five years will enrich the government; but as quartz mining is only in its infancy at present in this province, it would be bad policy in our judgment, to mistily engage in it out of all proportion to the other taxpayers of the province."

"I should also like to say in reference to legislation for the prevention of jumping that in case it was passed, the jumpers' object was extortion, he should be liable to prosecution for felony. Invariably the jumper gets in his evil work at the moment of selling or transferring mining property, and he does so almost entirely by fraud. The jumpers are engaged in it out of all proportion to the other taxpayers of the province."

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