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THE POLITICAL AGITATION

A Requisition to Col. Prior to Contest Victoria Seat.

Full Court Judgment in the Centre Star War Case.

VICTORIA, Nov. 21.—(Special.)—A petition was circulated today in the city addressed to Col. Prior, asking him to become an independent candidate in the bye-election, "with the hope," so the petition reads, "that if a dissolution of the present temporary administration occurs he could be called on to form a cabinet which would have as its main plank a competitive railway from Kootenay to the coast."

The remarkable feature is that of the petition being circulated by W. J. Hanna, a prominent Martinite Liberal, and there is a suspicion here that it is merely another move of Joe's to counter Bodwell's latest step. If Col. Prior stands—and the whole situation points to his being in the field as predicted in this correspondence—Victoria will be the theatre of a straight fight between the C. P. R., represented by Prior and the Great Northern by Bodwell.

Still another complication and an explanation of the affair, which has passed the rumor stage and is being used by the circulators of the petition to obtain signatures, is that by the terms of a compact arranged between the Liberals and Conservatives, Prior is to be returned unopposed by the city and assume the premiership, that Senator Templeman will be returned unopposed for the vacancy caused by Prior's move and go into the Ottawa cabinet, that George Riley is to go into the senate, and R. L. Drury to be placated with a place in Prior's cabinet, or with Earle's seat, that member resigning.

Capt. Tatlow, Smith Curtis and others addressed 500 citizens of Chilliwack last evening. A resolution similar to that passed at the Victoria mass meeting was adopted, condemning the government. Superintendent Hussey is back from Kingcombe Inlet, having captured six Indian ringleaders in the recent trouble with little difficulty. The tribe took to the hills, but after a parley with the chief the offenders were turned over to the officers. Two were sentenced to a year and the other four to six months imprisonment.

TO OPERATE IN THE BOUNDARY

A COMPANY COMPOSED OF CHICAGO CAPITALISTS NOW INCORPORATED.

THE PURCHASE OF A WEST FORK CLAIM MADE BY MR. LAIDLAW.

GREENWOOD, Nov. 25.—(Special.)—Andrew Laidlaw today bought outright from R. C. Graham the Queen of Sheba in Carmi camp, up the west fork of Kettle river. The claim adjoins the Butcher Boy, for which \$50,000 was recently refused. The deal was made on behalf of George R. Thamer, president of the Empire Lumber company, Chicago.

The articles of incorporation of Mr. Laidlaw's latest flotation, the Chicago Copper & Smelting company, have been filed at Victoria. The head office is at Greenwood and the registered office at Chicago. The company is capitalized for \$750,000, in one dollar shares.

The company purposes undertaking the development of mining claims and the construction of a smelter. It has acquired the Arlington claim, on which the first payment was made. Chicago capitalists are interested.

Stepped Into Live Coals. "When a child I burned my foot frightfully," writes W. H. Eads, of Jonesville, Va., "which caused horrible leg sores for 30 years, but Bucklen's Arnica Salve wholly cured me after everything else failed."

DEAD AND WOUNDED.

Canadian Casualties in the South African Constabulary.

OTTAWA, Nov. 22.—The following cable was received at the militia department today: "Johannesburg, Nov. 21.—I regret to inform you that Trooper William Sweter, south African Constabulary, died of wounds at Krugersdorp on the 25th of November. The next of kin, Mrs. J. Sweter, 54 Cordigli street, London, England. (Signed) High Commissioner."

London, Nov. 22.—I regret to inform you that James Johnston is dangerously ill at Kimberley, November 15th; father, W. Johnston, St. Marys P. O., Ont. A. Zimlick, dangerously wounded near Krugersdorp November 15th; father, R. Zimlick, New Westminster, B. C. (Signed) Chamberlain."

THE ROARIN' GAME

ROSSLAND CURLING CLUB READY FOR THE COMING SEASON.

QUESTION OF BONSPIEL TO BE SETTLED AT NELSON MEETING.

Curling promises to enjoy marked popularity in Rossland as well as the entire West Kootenay country during the approaching winter. The annual general meeting of the club took place last evening, and was well attended. J. S. C. Fraser, president, occupied the chair, and the affairs of last year's organization were wound up when the report of the secretary-treasurer was adopted. The report showed a cash balance to the credit of the club of \$32.

The officers for the ensuing year were elected as follows: Hgn. C. H. Mackintosh, patron. J. S. C. Fraser, president.

A. H. MacNeill, K. C., vice-president. E. B. Kirby, vice-president. H. H. Smith, vice-president. T. S. Gilmour, secretary-treasurer.

Executive committee—James Lawn, F. W. Pretty, W. M. Wood, Thomas Gray and R. W. Gregor. The question of the annual bonspiel under the auspices of the Kootenay Curling association came up for discussion and the matter was gone into at some length. The annual meeting of the association takes place at Nelson on December 8, and the Rossland club will be represented by A. B. Mackenzie and R. W. Gregor. These gentlemen were given a free hand as to the bonspiel matter. They will cast their vote with the city that appears to offer the best inducements as to weather and other conditions.

A special committee consisting of Messrs. Gray, Wood, Smith and Gilmour was drafted to prepare bylaws and a constitution for the club. The annual membership was placed at \$10. At the close of the meeting a large number of new members were admitted to the club on a ballot. The Rossland club is now ready for the advent of cold weather.

PHENOMENAL MEMORIES.

Many of the greatest men have had phenomenal memories, says Professor E. S. Holden, in Harper's Magazine for November. Caesar knew the names of thousands of soldiers in his legions. A modern man of science often has a prodigious memory for special terminology. Professor Asa Gray asserted that he could at once recall the names of something like 25,000 plants; Professor Theodore Gill can do the same for fishes. Our memory for mere words is itself much more extensive than is generally admitted. The average vocabulary of a child of two years has a vocabulary of some 500 words, and its father may have the command of 20,000 more. The 10,000 verses of the Rig Veda have, for 3,000 years, been accurately preserved in the memories of the Brahmans. Not one Brahmin alone, but thousands, can today recite it word for word. Thousands of Mohammedans, likewise, know the Koran by heart, as all learned Chinese know their classic books. The chiefs of Polynesia can and do repeat hundreds of thousands of words in their genealogies—taking days and even weeks for the recitation.

Hundreds of pianists can play all day, and many days, by memory, and I have myself seen Von Bulow conduct Beethoven's Fifth Symphony without a score. Chess players have a visualizing memory; musicians have an auditive and a motor memory; while arithmetical prodigies may have any one of the three, as we shall note in a future discussion of the subject, or a combination of all.

MANIPULATED THE ORE.

H. G. Klinz Accused of Defrauding Everett Smelter.

EVERETT, Wash., Nov. 23.—In the superior court a decree by default and judgment was handed down by Judge Denney to the plaintiff in the case of the Fugot Sound Reduction company versus H. G. Klinz, who was accused of defrauding the smelter of \$9,937, by the manipulation of low grade gold ore, making it assay many times above its real value. The defendant also forfeited \$1,000 cash bail. The defendant sold the reduction company three carloads of ore by sample from his properties in Colorado.

Fred Perline, a well known former resident, and once a partner in the Stenden printing firm, is paying the city a visit.

Russian experiments in raising sunken ships by means of inflated waterproof sacks proved successful.

TO BUILD A STATION AT GRANBY SMELTER

RAILWAY IMPROVEMENTS ARE PROCEEDING AT GRAND FORKS.

MR. BROWN REPORTS A GOOD COUNTRY UP THE KETTLE NORTH FORK.

GRAND FORKS, Nov. 22.—The Republic & Grand Forks railway will shortly begin the erection of a handsome wooden depot on Second street near the river, on the Ruckie addition adjoining the city limits. There will be passenger and express offices, general waiting room, ladies' waiting room, etc. on the ground floor. The offices of the general manager, superintendent, engineer and train dispatcher will be located upstairs.

The company's telegraph line between here and Republic is now being built. John Trotter, of this city, is executing the contract and is working north from Trout creek with a gang of men.

The railway company will also erect a four-stall roundhouse and machine shop on the Ruckie addition. Superintendent Clute is now in Chicago purchasing the remainder of the equipment. Steel ore cars will be used.

The Grand Forks Investment and Trust Company, representing two loan companies, has loaned \$30,000 here this fall for building purposes. Twenty-one additional applications for loans aggregating \$17,000 are pending. The prevailing mild weather permits of the continuance of building operations.

R. A. Brown is enthusiastic about the resources of the upper reaches of the north fork of Kettle river. He spent a month at the coal fields with Joseph Wiseman, the original discoverer. Mr. Brown expressed the belief that the timber wealth of that district would alone justify the extension of a railway there without delay.

Sixty miles north of Grand Forks there is a stretch of land in the valley half a mile wide and eight miles long that is well adapted for agricultural purposes. The soil consists of a black muck from two to five feet in thickness and is covered with a dense growth of cedar, white pine, tamarac, fir and hemlock. The coal-bearing rocks beyond occupy an area 20 miles long by 30 miles wide. Mr. Brown examined the various coal seams and said the region is as large as the coal region in the Crow's Nest Pass. He is firmly of the belief that extensive development should be undertaken owing to the splendid surface showings and the quality of the coal. Mr. Brown also believes that boring operations will disclose petroleum in large quantities in a basin eight miles wide and 30 miles long. In the contiguous territory he found some splendid "flow" and the coal seams will lead to the discovery of ledges of gold, copper and silver. There is a fair trail to the coal fields, but beyond the wind-falls and other debris. He will urge the government to appropriate \$3,000 for the purpose of extending the trail up the valley to Fire Valley, whence a trail extends to Vernon and the Arrow lake.

Volcanic Brown added that no difficulty will be experienced in building a railway north as the country is comparatively level all the way.

TELLURIDE, Col., Nov. 28.—The work of recovering the bodies of the victims of the disaster in the Smuggler-Union mine progressed slowly until at 11 o'clock yesterday, 60 hours after the breaking out of the fire at the mouth of Bullion tunnel, the last body was brought to the surface. It was that of John Nevella, and was found on one of the slopes of the seventh level. The death list now numbers 25, the brave engineer, Hugh O'Neil, who sacrificed himself in an effort to rescue his comrades, having died yesterday afternoon.

The responsibility for the disaster has not yet been fixed, and no one in Telluride is being blamed. The coroner has held an inquest over the bodies at the morgue and several of them have been sent to relatives in various parts of the state.

All the men in the mine at the time of the fire are now accounted for, and the search for bodies was practically abandoned. There is yet a possibility that other men may be found in stoves not yet reached, but this is not thought probable, for the day shift did not have time to reach any distant stoves before the alarm of fire was given.

The exploration of the tunnel was completed, but no bodies were found. The workings are not yet sufficiently free from gas to make it entirely safe to explore all parts of the mine.

The responsibility for the disaster has not yet been fixed, and no one in Telluride is being blamed. The coroner has held an inquest over the bodies at the morgue and several of them have been sent to relatives in various parts of the state.

A MANTEL ULAKK, IMITATION MARBLE, ENAMELLED, HALF HOUR CATHEDRAL GONG STRIKE, GIVEN AS A PREMIUM TO THE CONSUMERS OF PAY ROLL OR CURRENCY OBTAINING TOBACCO IN EXCHANGE FOR SNOWSHOE TAGS WOULD BE AN ORNAMENT IN A MILLIONAIRE'S HOUSE. WRITE FOR OUR ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE WHICH WE SEND GRATIS, AND SAVE THE TAGS, THEY ARE VALUABLE.

THE EMPIRE TOBACCO CO. LIMITED. WINNIPEG BRANCH

GREENWOOD, Nov. 23.—(Special.)—Andrew Laidlaw today paid the executor of the estate of the late T. E. Bielenberg the purchase price on the Arlington group, which he had under option for Chicago people. The consideration is withheld. The property was first located up the west fork of Kettle River and is noted for its high grade copper ore. Development will start at an early date.

Dayton, Ohio, and the Dayton, Ohio, Globe Iron Works supplied the 250-horse power water wheel. The furnaces and converters were manufactured by the Gates Iron Works, of Chicago. All the contracts for the supply of motors and electrical plant were executed by the Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Company, of Pittsburgh.

The ore bins have been enlarged to a capacity of 10,000 tons. To the superintendent, A. B. W. Hodges, who also planned the original plant, belongs the credit of having arranged the details of the enlargement. Many of his own original ideas have been incorporated in the machinery by the builders. Mr. Hodges, who was the first to solve the problem of the economical treatment of Boundary ores, has directed all the details of construction.

NEW RAILWAY STORY

J. J. HILL'S NAME NOW CONNECTED WITH CANADIAN NORTHERN.

SUITS FOR DAMAGES ON ACCOUNT OF THE ISLANDER DISASTER.

VICTORIA, Nov. 23.—(Special.)—The Colonist has a special from Montreal alleging that James J. Hill has secured the co-operation of MacKenzie and Mann and a subsidy for them from the Dominion government to have the Canadian Northern built via Quesnel, Bute Inlet, Seymour Narrows and the E. & N. railway to Victoria, making the latter place the terminus. It is regarded here with suspicion, as being sprung to influence the Victoria bye-election.

The steamer New England reached Vancouver today badly battered as the result of a gale. The City of Seattle also arrived, reporting that the Farallon with a broken propeller had put into the Skeena.

A meeting of the horticultural board will be held next week to take steps to more vigorously enforce quarantine and inspection of nursery stock imported from the United States and the eastern provinces.

E. M. Jeffrey of Seattle is here to institute thirty actions for damages against the C. P. R. company in connection with the Islander disaster.

D. A. Ayres, of Trail, H. Collinson, of Victoria, W. S. Marshall, of Duncan's, and H. G. Comro, of Vancouver, passed the examination entitling them to practice assaying in the province.

LAYING THE RAILS.

Progress Made With Republic and Grand Forks Road.

GRAND FORKS, Nov. 20.—From the terminus here the Republic and Grand Forks railway tracks have been laid south to a point two miles from the boundary line. Charles Ferguson, the contractor, states that Nelson, Wash., will be reached by Saturday night. The material yard will be established at Nelson.

W. H. Aldridge, superintendent of the Trail smelter, is here inspecting the Granby smelting plant. He will spend several days in the Boundary.

CITY NEWS

AT NORTHPORT.—The first installment of the new steel cars to be used in transporting ore from Rossland to Northport has been received at Northport laden with coke from the east. The cars will discharge their loads at the smelter and will then be put into commission between this city and Northport. Other trains are expected to arrive daily from the east until the entire complement of 75 cars is delivered.

A JOOLY DANCE.—The opera house will be the scene of a jolly dance on Wednesday night, when the "Missouri Boys" will give a reception, the first of a series which the miners of the camp propose holding. The music will be the best obtainable, a Spokane orchestra having been engaged for the occasion. The miners are determined to make the function a success, and no pains will be spared to accomplish this end.

HEAVY ENGINE.—The Spokane Falls & Northern road has ordered a heavy engine to be used on the run between Rossland and Northport. At present the ore cars are being handled in a double-headed train, but the press of business is growing steadily and it will be necessary shortly to have the new and heavy locomotive to help out the work. On Sunday 35 cars of ore were shipped to Northport. This approaches the 40-car record closely.

BIG BUSINESS.—As a sign of the times it may be mentioned that the business done by the Spokane Falls & Northern railroad during October was the largest in the history of the road, despite the fact that the handling of material into Rossland was not as heavy as ordinarily. When the recent strike occurred in Rossland 124 cars of material for the mines were standing on the tracks here, and the last of this was only used a few days since. New material will now be brought in and next month's tonnage should be very large indeed.

GOOD WORK.—Splendid work is being done at the Northport smelter. All five furnaces are working smoothly, although the management has been somewhat embarrassed by the inability at times to secure sufficient lime rock from the contractor who supplies the plant with the rock for fluxing purposes. On one or two occasions this has compelled the closing down of a furnace or two for a few hours. On Friday a record was made with No. 5 furnace. On that day 340 tons of ore, exclusive of other materials comprising the charges, was treated. Manager Szontagh was in Rossland for a few hours yesterday.

THAT YUKON CONSPIRACY

Department of the Interior Had Word in September.

Mr. Hays Again Manager of the Grand Trunk Railway.

OTTAWA, Nov. 22.—The department of the interior has been posted since September in regard to the Yukon conspiracy, the last despatch from Supt. Wood of Dawson being as follows: "Snider reports that he has discovered the whereabouts in Skagway of papers relating to the conspiracy to seize the territory. The United States authorities refuse to secure them unless Snider makes affidavits as to the conspirators. This, of course, he cannot do. I am satisfied such a conspiracy exists."

MONTREAL, Nov. 22.—A cablegram was received at the Grand Trunk office this evening announcing the re-engagement of Charles M. Hays as vice-president and general manager, taking effect January 1st. Geo. Reeves, the present second vice-president and general manager, will return to his California orange grove, from which he was summoned to succeed Mr. Hays.

LONDON, Nov. 22.—Sir Charles Rivers Wilson, president of the Grand Trunk railway, announced today that Charles M. Hays has been appointed general manager of that road.

HALIFAX, Nov. 22.—Application will be made to the Dominion Parliament for the incorporation of a company to put a bridge across the Straits of Canso. The bridge will be one of the highest in the world, and will have a span of at least a thousand feet. It is estimated that the structures and approaches will cost in the vicinity of four million dollars.

TORONTO, Nov. 22.—A white deer shot by a party of Guelph hunters in Muskoka arrived here today. The animal is a great rarity. The Smithsonian Institute, Washington, has offered a thousand dollars for it.

WINNIPEG, Nov. 22.—Death claimed one of Brandon's oldest residents today in the person of Stephen Clement, sheriff of the district. He was 70 years of age.

THE TAMMANY PLAN

A SCHEME FOR MAKING VOTERS DEVISED BY THE "LABOR LEAGUE."

"HOUSEHOLDERS" WHO COULD NOT PAY THE TWO DOLLAR ROAD TAX.

The "Labor League" in its effort to capture the municipal machinery of Rossland is buying votes. A number of the men who abandoned good positions last summer and have nothing better to employ their time are recruiting voters and bringing in men to be registered as householders. Apparently the catch of bona fide householders is slim, and new tactics have been resorted to.

On Thursday and yesterday a number of men, about a dozen in the aggregate, were brought down to the city hall to be registered as householders. They had not paid their road taxes, however, and the necessary \$2 per head was passed over to the city treasurer by the "Labor League" canvasser who happened to be one of the \$27.45 outfit.

The remarkable feature about the transaction is that these would-be voters have—if their declarations are the truth and not perjury—lived in Rossland for 12 calendar months and have paid during that period not less than \$60 rent, yet have not sufficient money to pay the city road tax of \$2. The whole business smacks of crooked work, and it is safe to predict that many of the parties registered by the "Labor League" will have their cases carefully scrutinized.

Another astonishing feature of the road tax proposition is that the "Labor League" tout who engineered the proposition did not seem to have sufficient confidence in the men he had recruited to permit them to handle the \$2 intended for the city treasurer. In no instance did he allow the men to pay the money themselves, but personally placed the currency in the hands of the city official for whom it was intended. No explanation was vouchsafed as to why the men were not deemed sufficiently trustworthy to make the payment for themselves.

The property owners of Rossland should and undoubtedly will give this matter careful consideration. The astounding spectacle is presented of an organization formed to capture the treasury of a thrifty city, committed in open meeting to the complete overthrow of the existing satisfactory civic officials, and padding the voters' lists with the names of parties who cannot pay \$2 road tax. The "Labor League" agitators must have a recruit from New York in their ranks, for their methods in the municipal campaign now under way have the earmarks of Tammany tactics. Fortunately property owners are alive to the situation, and the "Labor League" managers have already defeated their cause by the coarse manner in which they have bungled their work in the fortnight that the organization has existed.