

RAN AGAINST A SNAG

Opposition Speakers Last Night Called Down by Dr. Bowes.

COAST KOOTENAY LINE

Maxwell and Other Imported Orators Insisted That Columbia & Western Be Kept Out of Boundary Until the Vancouver Road Is Subsidized.

Dominion hall was comfortably filled last evening, on the occasion of the Liberal meeting. Dr. Sinclair was made chairman, and among the gentlemen called to the stage were Oliver Durant, J. B. McArthur, Hugh McCutcheon, Dr. Bowes, C. O. Lalonde and a number of others.

In calling the meeting to order, Dr. Sinclair argued that the present provincial government was far from being in sympathy with the popular sentiment in British Columbia, and it was a pleasure, he said, to be able to listen to such an array of Liberal speakers as would address the meeting.

Templeton's Speech.
Mayor Templeton of Vancouver, was the first speaker of the evening. He said that when starting out on their present journey, he and his fellow travelers had no idea of making it for political purposes.

Without doubt, said Mr. Templeton, Rossland was destined to be the greatest mining camp in the continent, but at present it was being seriously hampered by the lack of proper railroad connections with the coast. Personally he was one of a syndicate which for more than a year past had been endeavoring to connect this camp by rail with Vancouver and the other coast cities.

He and his associates were still in the field, he continued, and hoped soon to see their enterprise completed. The great difference between the plans of the Vancouver, Victoria & Eastern road and its various rivals was that while the latter contemplated building railways that would extend to Penticton the former intended to put a road through to the coast. He asked that the federal government give to the Vancouver & Eastern syndicate a big bonus, and rescind the land grant already allowed to the province in opposition to that project. To secure this it was necessary that the present government be turned down, and men be elected to the provincial legislature who would really represent their constituency.

He said that he had no doubt that the government he had in mind was the one that would be elected, but he wanted to know what the opposition? Who will be its leader? When the children of Israel were to throw off their bonds they did not have to hunt for a Moses; and it would be the same way now. The opponents of the present administration would only unite, leaders and capable leaders would soon be forthcoming. Only united effort was needed to substitute for the present incapable government one which would truly be of, by and for the people.

Macdonnell's Talk.
Mr. Templeton was followed by G. A. Macdonnell. He regretted, he said, that he had found an opinion prevalent in this district that the coast people were balking the Columbia & Western extension to Penticton. Though the solicitor of the V. & E. Eastern syndicate, he confessed that he had his clients were not really opposing the Heinze extension. Instead, he personally favored government construction of the proposed road. Nevertheless, he opposed the Penticton extension, not because of any personal reasons, but because it must be merely a spur of the C. P. R.

C. P. R. Bondage.
The people of the coast were now under the heel of the C. P. R., and what he wanted was an independent road that would reach from the coast to the Columbia river. The Crow's Nest Pass road will not help British Columbia; it will benefit only the eastern provinces by giving them an outlet into British Columbia. Personally, he was not satisfied that the Opposition would give any better government than the present administration. The real issue was to elect good men and see that we get what we ask for. He was amazed at seeing the neglect imposed upon the Rossland district.

An Able Member Needed.
It needs a representative in the provincial legislature and Rossland should demand such recognition. At Revelstoke he had found a fine court house in course of construction and he was amazed to see Rossland quite destitute of such an advantage.

The Member for Burrard.
The next speaker was Mr. Maxwell, M.P. He had met so many tillacums here, he said, that he felt almost as if in Vancouver. Mark Twain, he said, had said that a mine is a hole in the ground and its owner a liar. A great many people had applied the same belief to politics and politicians, but when one considered the question seriously one found that politics concerns all the true moral, material and physical welfare of the people, so that it behooved people to enquire to their soul's depth over what they believed right. The next election was not likely to occur soon for the present government was altogether likely to stave off such a calamity to the last moment, so as to enjoy the spoils and fruits of office. Nevertheless, there were many signs that the present government would soon break up. Among these was the resignation of D. W. Higgins, from the speakership of the house. It was too bad to see a man squeeze all the juice from the orange, and then leave the party because he could get no more spoils.

No Use for Higgins.
As far as Mr. Higgins was concerned, the speaker hoped that he would not ally himself with the Opposition, for he had been part of the present government, and there was little desire to see Mr. Higgins in the ranks of the Opposition. The present government was weak mentally, weak in stamina, weak in its movements, weak in its legislative actions. The present legislators are mere

marionettes, moved and controlled by one or two leaders.

Controlled by Rithet.
The real leader of the house is Mr. Rithet, who absolutely controls eight members, whose votes sway all the legislation undertaken. What British Columbia must have is a government which will be actuated by the people, not by the wishes of one or two men.

Another thing he had against the present administration is that it is a government for monopolies and against the laboring classes. It had placed taxes on the mines and coal lands of the mainland, while the Dunsmuirs, the owners of vast coal fields on Vancouver island, are allowed to go Scott free. The speaker demanded that the recipients of public bounty should pay tribute to the Provincial treasury.

No Lover of Chinese.
Rossland, he continued, was to be congratulated upon the absence of Chinese. He would welcome potato bugs in preference to Celestials. These Chinamen were here at the instance of the Provincial government. The speaker was a socialist to the extent of believing that the resources of nature belonged to the people. Yet at present every mill and mine in the Province bore the stamp of some corporation. If these monopolists would not give up their vast concessions then he would favor squeezing them until they did disgorge.

Observe.
The speaker then went on to denounce F. Aug. Heinze and threatened that should he visit Victoria with the intention of seeking assistance to develop this country he would receive no support.

With all his native love for a fight the speaker did not desire to see a sharply drawn contest between the Liberals and Conservatives. The policy to be pursued at the coming election is to put in office men who will support the true interests of the people, and to defeat the men who at present enumbered the government.

Rossland's Schools.
Today he had attended Rossland's schools, to see the school buildings that were provided here. The minister of education had returned from Rossland, saying that by his maternal powers he had restored the schools of this city to the proud place they deserved.

Redistribution.
The burning question now is redistribution. The government had steadily refused to divide the province into fair electoral districts, knowing the inevitable defeat which would follow them if redistribution were effected. The people should elect men who would see the proper division of the province is speedily made. At the last election Vancouver island and the mainland were sternly divided. Then Mr. Rithet concocted his British Pacific scheme, and called upon the islanders to support it and other government measures. He said that if the mainlanders got in they would take away the birth rights of the islanders. Happily, at this time, there is no such animosity between the two divisions of the province.

R. R. McNis's, editor of the Regina, N.W.T., Standard, spoke briefly. He said it was not good for one party to remain in power a great length of time.

A Kootenian Speaks.

He was followed by Dr. Bowes, who confessed his ignorance of things political, but desired to state his sentiments as a plain elector. Though agreeing with some of the remarks of his predecessors, yet he did not agree with them in many other respects. They had generalized regarding the mistakes of the present government, but had laid no specific charges. He was not present as a defender of Mr. Heinze, yet he only expressed the sentiments of the community in commending the subsidies the legislature had granted to the promoter of the Columbia & Western. The government had granted exactly the same rights to Mr. Heinze and the Victoria, Vancouver & Eastern people, the latter had not taken one single step to build the road, and so far as he could see, its only object had been to check the enterprise of Mr. Heinze.

Some Plain Talk.
He could not defend the present Opposition. A few days ago it had gone in labor, but the platform it had produced was a miscarriage. Mr. Heinze had shown his faith in the province by constructing a railroad and a smelter, while his opponents had done nothing except block his enterprise. It may not be a very large affair, but it has done untold good in building up the district. [Great and prolonged cheering.]

Sinclair's Remarks.
As Dr. Bowes retired, Dr. Sinclair replied that while Mr. Heinze had built the railroad, yet his sole object had been to make money for himself. [Laughter, and queries of "Why else would he build it?" "Everybody is here to make money."]

Mr. Martin's Speech.
The last speaker of the evening was James Martin, who attacked what he called the charter-mongering of the present government. While formerly he did not care particularly who built the coast road, since hearing the speeches of his predecessors he was desirous of seeing it built independently of the C. P. R. Nevertheless he wanted a road built to Penticton, whether Mr. Heinze or somebody else should build it. He wanted the Dominion to annul the charter of the British Columbia Southern, or else compel Colonel Baker and his associates to build the road instead of offering their charter to whomsoever would buy it. In conclusion he joyfully expressed the hope that the Rossland opponents of the government would soon find a political Moses, and called on J. B. McArthur as the new leader.

McArthur's Roast.
Mr. McArthur limited his remarks to pointing out some objections to the present government. For the past six months, the revenues of the Provincial

office in Rossland were \$94,000. How much of that had been spent in local improvements, while Revelstoke had received a court house and other public improvements, Rossland had been quite ignored. Then, too, the Cassiar land grant was a deal which no one could uphold. In closing, Mr. McArthur moved a vote of thanks to Mr. Maxwell and his associates, which was heartily carried.

Father Pat's Free Library.
The free library in the English church recently inaugurated by the Rev. H. Irwin, is steadily increasing in size and importance. It is open day and night, and is constantly warmed and lighted. Writing material is always on hand, and visitors are at liberty to take books to their homes by registering their names and those of the volumes they desire. Among the recent accessions to the library are the following: From Mrs. Bohm of Trail, 53 magazines; H. Simpson, 32 magazines; W. Gillespie, four volumes; H. Adams, two volumes; "A Friend," two volumes; "A Well-wisher," six volumes; "Interested," one volume.

Grand Forks City Council Asked City Clerk Aikman to Resign.
He Promptly Did So, Saying He Intended to Leave Anyhow—Mining News of the District.

GRAND FORKS, Sept. 7.—[Special.]—A special meeting of the city council was held yesterday. All the members of the council were present with the exception of Alderman Dupond and the mayor. Alderman W. C. K. Manly moved that City Clerk Aikman hand in his resignation. His motion was carried. At this juncture Alderman Davis, without asking leave of the chair, left the room to take a ride on his bike, and thus avoid any unpleasant discussion. A war of words began between Alderman W. C. K. Manly and Alderman W. C. K. Manly said that if Clerk Aikman did not resign he would. City Clerk Aikman then spoke up and said he did not wish to see an alderman to resign on his account, and as he was going away on October 4th anyway he would hand in his resignation at once. The meeting then adjourned till Friday next on motion of Alderman L. A. Manly.

Now that the city clerkship is about to be vacant it will rest with the city council to appoint a new clerk. It is, however, understood that John D. Swanson, a lawyer of this place, will be offered this position in a few days.

Now that it is drawing near the date of the next municipal election in this city the political pot has begun to boil, and some half dozen of our citizens are mentioned as likely men to fill the office of chief magistrate of this city for the next 12 months. Among those mentioned for this office are Manly, Alderman Manly, James Addison, James Kerr, Peter T. McCallum and James Harvey. An exciting time is anticipated as each candidate will have a certain following.

City Assessor Addison has just completed the assessment roll, which foots up the next list sum of \$228,651, being the total assessment roll for the next 12 months.

After a Similkameen Mine.
J. S. Patterson, mining broker of Rossland, passed through this city last Monday en route for the Similkameen district, where he has gone to inspect the Sunset claim on Copper mountain. It is said that Patterson's intention is to secure 200 pounds of this ore which he will ship to a New Jersey smelter for treatment. The Sunset is owned by R. A. Brown and others of this city, and is a high grade copper proposition. It is understood Mr. Patterson is interested in the property is preparatory to his making an offer.

Ontario Boy's Rich Ore.
C. H. Folger of this city, who owns the Ontario Boy claim up the North Fork, is stepping very high these days. The reasons given for his recent jubilant condition are that some two weeks ago he sent some of his men to prospect for gold on the Ontario Boy claim, and just the other day received the returns in the shape of a good sized gold button, which was valued by a local assayer at \$6, thus making the ore worth \$300 to the ton. There is an immense ledge about 200 feet from the old workings. This ledge was at once stripped for several hundred feet, and was found to be exceedingly rich in copper. Samples of this new strike have been secretly brought to Grand Forks and present a truly wonderful appearance. It is understood that a shaft will be started at once on the new lead.

Owing to the continued low water in the main Kettle river O. N. McDougall, of the Eighteen Karat placer group, has been compelled to put in a second ditch or canal on this property in order to procure the required amount of water to run the machinery.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.
Sanitation in Rossland.

EDITOR MINER:—Rossland, Sept. 8. As a visitor to this city and inspired with a warm interest in its future, I have viewed with astonishment and regret the works now in progress in its principal streets for the commencement of a system of arterial drainage, with which it is proposed to connect the houses. My astonishment has been increased by reading some of the correspondence on the subject that has appeared in your paper.

As a stranger I have made inquiry in several directions, to find out the origin of the scheme, as town drainage and sanitation is a question in connection with which I have had a life long experience, and as to which I am frequently officially consulted. I am

ignorant of the nature or value of the advice under which the present works have been started, or how far the advisers of the city council considered the situation, before reporting on the subject, from all points of view. I do not know even if the following elementary considerations were understood, namely, that the existence of "cloaca" in the old cities of the world was due to the fact that their early inhabitants, having once begun to use the water-closet to rid themselves of their slops, were forced to perpetuate that means by habit, and by the difficulty of changing, and that having once commenced to use sewers for the conveyance of sewage and surface drainage, all that sanitary engineering could do was to devise means of rendering it harmless, and that the perpetuation of liquid means of conveyance of sewage is by no means because it is in any case the best means.

The use of the water courses of a country for the conveyance of sewage being now prohibited by civilization, what can be said when we see a new city like Rossland, with all the knowledge and experience of the past before it, starting as if the aggregation of people which has created it had existed a century ago? I need not emphasize the apparent absence of forethought, namely, that the manner of the disposal of the 200,000 tons of liquid which will soon be collected on one line in one year, has not been decided, but I would point out that the location of sewage farms is a very difficult and uncertain expedient, only necessary on account of the original blunders, which collected and destroyed large bodies of liquid sewage at one point.

I would only add that in view of the mountainous nature of the site of the city and the absence of level spaces, the necessity to adopt the system now commenced ought to have been very great. The extreme conditions of fall in the pipes, instead of, as some might suppose, being an advantage, is actually a source of difficulty and expenditure, not only in construction, but also in maintenance, even if the precautions essential to such conditions were present in the works in progress.

I do not like to ask you, sir, to put in print hard words which, I cannot feel, feeling the procedure up to now, as evidenced by the initiative works, actually deserves. All that can be said to expose the mistake that has been made, should be reserved for the council chamber, where the advocates of the sewerage should be called on before those who really have studied the question and are experts in its merits as applied to Rossland, to state their case.

My object in writing this letter is that peradventure it is not too late to "hold our hands" and have the subject well reconsidered. I should strongly advise the town to delay all connections of water closets with the drains and use them only, when it can be easily done, for slops and for surface drainage. For the treatment of excreta nothing is so sanitary and so improves the dry earth system for cleanliness, economy and efficiency, if it is properly done. In numerous urban districts well organized arrangements for a public supply of dry earth and of collection works most satisfactory and not at all difficult in constructing in private houses and public retiring rooms conveniences as automatic and wholesome, as well as ornamental, as anything that is used with the water system.

Your obedient servant,
O. E. WEBBER.

[The writer is Major-General Webber, C. B., retired R. E., and M. Inst. C. E. He is the only officer of the Royal Engineers who is a member of the Institute of Civil Engineers, all other Engineer officers, both past and present, being merely honorary members. As General Webber is a very high authority on the subject of sanitation we hope the rate-payers of Rossland will give heed to his council.—Ed.]

The Enterprise Company.
191 Bleecker St., Toronto.
EDITOR MINER:—Sir: As a constant reader of your paper and believing as I do that you are always anxious to answer any questions that are put to you about the mines that you have any knowledge of, I have a few hundred shares in the Enterprise which would be pleased if you would give me a little information concerning this mine. The one I want to know about is in Trail creek. I hear there are other mines called by that name.

Yours truly,
J. SILVESTER.

[But little work has been done on the Enterprise since it was acquired by its present owners, an Ohio syndicate, represented by W. A. Ritchie of Spokane, Wash. It is the second eastern extension of the famous Centre Star, and is considered a valuable property. We believe negotiations looking to a sale of the property to parties in a position to work it, are now going on, but we do not know what price is asked or whether it is proposed to sell the whole mine or only a control of the stock.—Ed.]

Five Cent Beer Question.
ROSSLAND, Sept. 4.
EDITOR MINER:—Sir: Now that Mr. Spellman has put his fist to paper on the "Five cent beer" question it is in order to take another view of the matter

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that you have seemingly overlooked, that of protection to home industry. You are especially desirous of protecting the smelters. Suppose you express your opinion on the question of beer, inasmuch as a quarter of a million of dollars have been invested in Kootenay, in breweries, during the present year.

First-class beer of a superior quality to any imported from the States can be brewed in Rossland for \$12 per barrel and the man who sells it for 5 cents a glass can pay his debts and make money, Mr. Spellman to the contrary notwithstanding.

As to appealing to sentiment in this question, it is perfect rot. The outside world knows that Rossland is going through the reaction incident to the life of all over boomed towns and 5 cent beer will never hurt it.

I would advise Jerry to try again. His article deceives no one. It is a lame excuse to protect Spokane beer as against the productions of Kootenay of a superior quality. Five-cent beer has come to stay, and the kickers had better accept the situation with good grace.

H. E. RAY.

Lottie and North Star.
CHICAGO, Sept. 3.

EDITOR MINER:—Sir: D. W. Clendenen has referred me to you for the following information: What are the shares worth in the Lottie mine, from time to time? What is the standing of the North Star Gold Mining company of Spokane? The company is composed of W. R. Sutherland, W. A. Sutherland, Isaac J. Blair, and S. A. Wells. Any information you can give me as to the standing of these men, and to the value of the Lottie mine for developing purposes, will be greatly appreciated by yours truly.

G. F. WASHBURN.

[We never heard of the Lottie mine nor of the North Star company. If any of our readers know of either they will do us a favor by giving us such information as they possess.—Ed.]

The Reaction From the Boom.
TORONTO, Sept. 2.

EDITOR MINER:—Sir: Noticing the number of inquiries made from time to time for information about certain mines and mining companies shows the anxiety of investors of mining shares. Such a desire for fresh information is not to be wondered at when we take into consideration the large number of people who were induced to invest in mining stocks during boom days, and were led to believe that in the course of a few months money, in the way of dividends, would begin to flow back. But as such roseate results have not been realized, a feeling of disappointment has followed, and under the influence of that feeling many have disposed of their shares at more or less loss.

After calm and sober thought the public are beginning to realize that both time and much capital will be required to make the Rossland mines dividend payers. Stockholders will have to exercise patience and, in some instances, it will be to their interests to invest in an additional number of shares in order to place the companies in a position to continue their work. It is to be deplored that such a large number of very promising prospects are forced to stand idle for want of necessary funds. But time is a great wonder worker, and it is to be hoped that the near future will witness a healthy and lasting return of mining activity.

A. NOXON, M. D.

Mugwump Company's Meeting.
TORONTO, Sept. 2.

EDITOR MINER:—Sir: Can you inform me if a meeting of the Mugwump Gold Mining company was held at Seattle on August 17 as advertised in THE MINER? As no report of the meeting, so far as I know, has been issued to the shareholders it would be of interest to the owners of stock to know what the intentions of the company are. Mugwump stock should be popular with the investing public considering its location and the results of development work so far. I have great faith in the development of the Rossland camp, and if sufficient capital can be secured to fully develop the many promising properties I predict that the results will within the next few years be a wonderful surprise to many a doubting Thomas.

[We have no information as to whether the advertised meeting of the Mugwump company was held or not. We shall be indebted to any shareholder or officer of the company for a report of what occurred on that occasion.—Ed.]

Fourteen Gold Mines Company.
CLYDE, N. Y., Aug. 29.

EDITOR MINER:—Sir: I wish you would report, through the columns of your paper, the prospects and what is being done to develop the property of the Fourteen Gold Mines Consolidated company, limited liability.

STOCKHOLDER.

[We have visited none of the properties of the company in question and have no personal knowledge of their merits. A letter to the office of the company in this city would probably result in Stockholder getting the information he wants.—Ed.]

Silver Bell, Ibez, near Silver Bell, and St. Paul, near White Bear.
FORT ALMA, Ont., Aug. 30.

EDITOR MINER:—Sir: Can you give me in your next issue any news of the

Silver Bell, Ibez, near Silver Bell, and St. Paul, near White Bear. Yours truly, R. BEATTIE.

[There are no new developments concerning either of those properties.—Ed.]

Placer Mining Queries.
EDITOR Rossland Miner:

Dear Sir: It is argued in this part of the country that a Chinaman can get rich out of the placer ground from which a white miner, however expert, has taken all the gold he is able to take. If this is so, who in your country knows the facts and is willing to tell them and from actual knowledge how and why this is.

Also, what is the best kind of a sluice to use to effect the fastest handling of gravel and save all the gold. Does the Alaska gold dust have to be retorted? If so, what make of retort is the best? Although three thousand miles away I regularly take your paper and know that it is a first class mining medium.

Very respectfully,
J. W. BROWN.

Buffalo, N. Y.

The Chinese as a rule are good placer miners, but are not more successful than white men who understand the business. The Chinese are often content to work ground that yields returns which white men would not bother about.

Numerous kinds of rifles are used in sluicing, but much depends on the character and amount of the gravel washed. Gold is only retorted when quicksilver has been used in saving it. We cannot advise you as to the best kind of retort.—Ed.]

Albert Whyte Wanted.
A letter has been received at THE MINER office from P. B. Saur, M. D., of Chicago, enquiring after the whereabouts of Albert Whyte who is stated to have been a mining broker in this city.

EDITORIAL NOTES.
The opening of the Merchants' Bank of Halifax here in a few days will give Rossland the unique distinction among Kootenay cities of having branches of three chartered banks.

Sophie mountain will be a lively section of the Rossland camp in a few weeks. Sir Charles Tupper's company has instructed its resident engineer, Captain Morrish, to push the development of the Velvet at once, and D. B. Bogle's London company will shortly resume work on the Victory-Triumph on a large scale. It is safe to say that half a dozen other properties in that vicinity will have forces of miners at work inside of 30 days.

A DISPATCH, published in this issue, tells of the death of Mr. Alexander Begg, the editor of the British Columbia Mining Record. Mr. Begg was widely known along the Pacific coast as an able journalist, and never displayed that quality to better advantage than during the time he presided over the Mining Record. His well-directed efforts on behalf of the Kootenay mining industry were much appreciated in this district, and his passing away will be sadly regretted throughout the entire Province.

We have just received a copy of the new edition of Williams' Provincial Directory. Judging from the excellence of the pages devoted to Rossland and other Kootenay cities, we should judge it was a most complete and up-to-date directory, and invaluable to business and professional men throughout the province.

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