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AGRICULTURE AND MINING.

Prospects for the Present Season in the Interior Country.

NUMBERS OF SETTLERS ARRIVING

The Winter Said to Be the Most Backward for Twenty Years—Daily Trains Wanted on the S. & O.—Steamers Have Commenced to Run.

(Vernon News.)

Hay is at a premium at Penticon, ranging from \$30 to \$40 per ton.

The Vernon private college reopened for its second term on Monday last.

Chinese labor has been introduced in White Valley on the ranch of Mr. A. Carr.

The Silver Crown Mining Co. is expected to put up a mill and commence work at an early date.

White Valley farmers have commenced ploughing and many are far advanced with their work.

Miners and prospectors are coming in from all quarters and some rich prospects are being found.

Lequime Bros. have promised the Kootenay Methodists some lots upon which to build their new church.

The Methodists of Vernon have received a handsome gift from Mr. Price Ellison of a fine new organ for their church.

Mr. Fletcher, postoffice inspector, will be present for the carrying of a mail bag to Trout creek as soon as navigation opens.

The Aberdeen will in all probability be launched about the middle of May.

The timbers for launching are already being put in position.

Farmers and gardeners are getting to work and a much larger acreage than usual will be sown. This is the most backward spring in 20 years.

Smith & Chera are putting in a dry kiln at the landing. They have two million feet to saw this summer, which will make a busy season for them.

The Strathguy Mining Co. have their quartz mill building about ready to receive the machinery. They are putting miners to work getting out ore at the West Side and Brown Bear mines.

There is a regular stage line now from Camp Fairview to meet the boat at Penticon. This will be continued straight along now without interrup-

Work is badly needed on the Mission creek dam, also the road between the school and Mission needs re-graveling, and the teams are cutting through to the mine.

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with rockers on both the North and South Forks, taking advantage of the low water.

The Victoria Hydraulic Mining Co. have moved most of their machinery to the North Fork and will operate on a large scale there this season.

Mr. H. R. Lee, C. E., of Kamloops, last week completed the survey of a townsite at Nicola, on the property of Wm. Yogh and coal mines.

The South Fork Company are getting their pipe laid for the first run of water, but the weather is very backward and lots of snow, which yet delays the work all round.

The government is building a bridge across the North Fork about nine miles up from the Forks. They will finish about two weeks and then they will start the road work.

Mr. C. Plair, who represents the government at Lillooet, reports that several new placer claims have been taken up on the Fraser, and that more than usual work will be done hydraulically as well as in quartz this season.

There is a company prospecting the South Fork river. They have a diving suit, and the diver goes down in the middle of the stream and twists up dirt with a bucket. They have taken out some very good prospects.

Mr. John G. Meyers, of Tacoma, has been in town several days making inquiries and taking notes with the view to prospect for minerals in the district.

Mr. E. A. Watson, who is a resident of the district, has been examining a ledge of quartz in that neighborhood.

An agent of the Boston and Montana Mining Co., Mr. C. M. Bartlett, of Butte City, has been looking over Kaslo to find a suitable site for building sampling works with a capacity of 100 tons a day and at last he has found it.

The fact has developed that the students who did the branding of the boys were not sophomores, but an aggregation of slugs selected from the lower classes.

One of the number, Mickey Harold, is not a student at all, having graduated last year from the University of Michigan, of London, Ohio; Waite Phelps, of Mechanicsburg; Summer Welch, of this city, son of Dr. C. Welch; Harry Ketchum, of Ohio; son of Rev. L. A. Bell, of Columbus; Walter Evans, of Cambria, Ohio; Will Mooreman, of South Charleston, Ohio; and Pete Adams, of Highland, Ohio.

All of these are members of the D.O.A., which is not a chartered fraternity.

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The president and faculty of the university met to-day and discussed the situation of the nine students who committed the branding outrages on members of the Greek letter fraternity.

Toledo, Ohio, April 24.—The victims of the recent branding outrage at the Ohio Wesleyan University have suffered greatly in mind as well as in body.

The constant reflection that on their faces the scars and cicatrices caused by the chemicals will be carried through life is by no means food for quiet peace of mind.

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The object was to prevent their appearance in full dress at class receptions and the commencement.

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Defeat in Store for Caprivi.

Berlin, April 22.—The reichstag now has interest in nothing except in calculating what the result will be in a division on the army bill.

The defeat of the government. The question is, how many votes Caprivi, after long intriguing with the Center and National Liberal parties, will be able to secure.

The house comprises at present 394 members, three seats being vacant. Out of these the chancellor relies upon getting the support of 151.

Conservatives, 18 Free Conservatives, 41 National Liberals, 17 Poles and 1 Reichstag, a total minority vote of 151.

Against the bill the Socialist opposition amounts to 243 votes and made up of Centerists, Freisinnige, Socialists and other factions.

Even should the chancellor be able to secure the votes of a small number of Catholic dissidents, the following of Huelke, they would not suffice to avert defeat.

Party leaders are accepting dissolution as inevitable and are assiduous in preparations for the election of his chief.

The Freisinnige leaders, who will enter the contest thoroughly united, will press a declaration as soon as the reichstag rejects the bill.

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DISORDERLY STUDENTS.

"Hazing" Carried to An Outrageous Length in an Ohio College.

Delaware, Ohio, April 22.—The outrageous hazing performance of the students of the Ohio Wesleyan University is assuming proportions of greater than was anticipated.

Some of the young women students at Monnett Hall, belonging to the university, caught the hazing spirit and fell upon their sister schoolmates.

About 20 young women on the same evening in boys suffered, got a strong solution of nitrate of silver and proceeded to brand six or seven of their school friends on their necks, breasts, arms and hands for the purpose, it is claimed, of so disfiguring them that they would be unable to wear evening dresses at the senior reception Thursday evening.

They lay in wait for them until after midnight, when the girls were returning from their society meeting in their hall.

This occurrence, coupled with the outrage of the mail students, has added fuel to the excitement.

Some of the students last evening set one of the frame buildings on the college campus on fire and it was nearly consumed.

The fact has developed that the students who did the branding of the boys were not sophomores, but an aggregation of slugs selected from the lower classes.

One of the number, Mickey Harold, is not a student at all, having graduated last year from the University of Michigan, of London, Ohio; Waite Phelps, of Mechanicsburg; Summer Welch, of this city, son of Dr. C. Welch; Harry Ketchum, of Ohio; son of Rev. L. A. Bell, of Columbus; Walter Evans, of Cambria, Ohio; Will Mooreman, of South Charleston, Ohio; and Pete Adams, of Highland, Ohio.

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