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Local News

(From Friday's Daily.)

The Islands Show.—The merchants and business men of the city are thanked by the secretary of the Islands Agricultural and Fruit Growers Association for their courteous and generous interest shown in the annual exhibition, which is to be held on September 29 next at Ganges Harbor, Salt Spring Island.

Branch in Vancouver.—It is announced in the Vancouver press that Messrs. Terry & Marett, of Victoria, the well-known local firm of druggists, are about to open a branch store in the Terminal City. The location will be on Hastings street east, near Westminster avenue.

Noted Legal Visitor.—A visitor to the city was Clarence Darrow of Chicago, who was counsel for John Mitchell in the famous struggle with the coal operators in the anthracite fields of Pennsylvania. Mr. Darrow was present at the meeting in Labor Hall on Wednesday evening and delivered an interesting lecture on labor topics.

Pacific Cable.—The Canadian Associated Press learns that the Pacific cable board reached unanimous conclusions regarding all matters referred to it. The report will be signed by the different government representatives this week, and cabled by the imperial government to other governments. Good results are likely to follow from the discussions.

Struck Good Ore.—William Lewis, foreman in charge of operations at the King Solomon mine, near Kooksilah, at the close of last week reported the uncovering of another large body of ore on this promising property. The new strike is 36 feet in width and is stated to carry very satisfactory values.

Tiny Tot's Trip.—The Winnipeg Free Press of Monday had the following interesting paragraph: "Eight years is the age of a British maiden who halted at the Union depot, St. Paul, on Saturday morning to buy some candy while travelling by herself from England to British Columbia. Her name is Violet Bradshaw. Her "people," she said, live in Victoria, and she was "going to make them a little visit."

Trout for Park Lake.—The small lake at Beacon Hill is now the home of a number of trout. The aquarium, which has been a feature of the windows of Fichon & Lenfesty for the past several months, has been removed. This was found necessary because the fish were dying because of the warmth of the water. Mr. Lenfesty, as soon as he saw the inevitable outcome, sent the trout to the park, where they are reported to be doing well.

Wool for Scotland.—British Columbia wool for Scottish mills seems a far cry, but that is exactly the arrangement entered into by a number of farmers of Chilliwack with a gentleman who was recently here buying for Glasgow woollen Mills, says the Vancouver World. Many sheep, more than most people are aware of, are kept in the Fraser valley, in spite of the dampness of the low ground, that is usually against success in this line, and hitherto the product of the industry has been chiefly mutton. Now the farmers will send their wool to Glasgow over the C. P. R. via Montreal and the market thus found will stimulate the rearing of sheep for shearing in this district.

Victoria Firm Busy.—William Smith, of the contracting firm of Messrs. Smith & Sherborne, has gone to Revelstoke. Messrs. Smith & Sherborne are building the new Canadian Pacific railway station buildings at the gateway to the Kootenay country, and it is in connection with the contract that Mr. Smith is going to Revelstoke. The station building is well under way now, the excavating being finished and the walls well started. The full plant is in Revelstoke and work will be rushed right along.

Kershaw Is Firm.—A special despatch from Bellingham says: "State Fish Commissioner Kershaw has issued a public warning that he will revoke the license of any trapman hereafter convicted of violating the Sunday closing law, and will not re-issue it so long as he is in office. A test case to decide whether "closing the trap" means merely lifting the tunnel and raising the web so that salmon cannot collect in the pots will be made on San Juan island. All the tunnels of the traps were found closed last Sunday."

Sawmill Enterprises.—The work of erecting the sawmill for Messrs. Moore & Whittington in the bay above Point Ellice bridge is just about completed and the plant is expected to be in running order within a few days. The mill will have a capacity of 25,000 feet per day. It is equipped with all the latest machinery. Directly across the bay is the new mill for John Taylor of this city. Work has only recently been commenced here, and already the foundation is well under way. This site is an ideal one for a sawmill, having a great quantity of room for yard purposes. When this mill is ready for operation Victoria will then have as many sawmills for its size as any city on the coast.

Oysters Thriving.—Fisheries Inspector E. G. Taylor, speaking of the new oyster beds which have been planted in various coast waters by the Dominion government, says the bivalves are thriving as well as was hoped for by the most sanguine. In one place not far from Nanaimo the oysters show a growth of fully an inch in about three weeks. This proves that Eastern oysters may be cultivated in British Columbia waters with the very best success. Capt. Kemp, the Eastern oyster expert, has been visiting several of the beds recently planted, and is most favorably impressed with the success already achieved. He says British Columbia waters are apparently well adapted to the cultivation of these large Eastern oysters, and this should result in building up an extensive and profitable industry for British Columbia.

Glass-Bottomed Boat.—The glass-bottomed boat which is being built by Mr. Watson, of Victoria West, to the order of the Tourist Association will likely be ready for use in about a week's time. It will have accommodation for about twenty passengers. A glass plate about 11 feet long and 15 inches wide will be fitted in the bottom, and through this the depths of the sea may be observed. The unique craft will be the first of the kind to be used this side of Los Angeles, and it is expected to prove a strong drawing card for tourists. Off Catalina Island, on the coast of Southern California, these boats have proved a great success. They are patronized by thousands, and are equipped in the most luxurious manner.

Of Local Interest.—In the North Sydney Herald of recent date are two items which are of interest in Victoria. One states that "Councillor Joseph Peppett returned home on Monday evening from Victoria, B. C. He expects to return to the Coast in October. He speaks most enthusiastically of the climate and the prosperity of Victoria." The other says: "The engagement is announced of Miss Susie Peppett, daughter of J. W. Peppett, Esq., to Randolph Bolling, of Richmond, Virginia." "Councillor Peppett" is better known in Victoria, where he spends much of his time, as Capt. J. W. Peppett, owner of the sealing schooner Umbrina, now in Behring sea. He stated when he left Victoria that he intended to secure a controling interest in a Halifax schooner, which he intended to send to this city. Miss Susie Peppett, a daughter of Capt. Peppett, has visited Victoria with her father and made many friends here.

English Artists Coming.—In October the British Columbia coast cities will be visited by the celebrated English artists, Watkin Mills, Harold Wilde, Edith Kirkwood, Gertrude Lonsdale and M. Edouard Parlovitz. Mr. Harold is a tenor with a voice of singular purity and flexibility, and he has sung in most of the leading oratorio productions of recent years. Miss Edith Kirkwood is the soprano of the Royal Italian Opera, Covent Garden, and is a distinguished artist. Miss Gertrude Lonsdale has a contralto of remarkable richness, and her superb style has won the highest encomiums. M. Edouard Parlovitz, the piano virtuoso, is a brilliant performer, his special forte being in the rendering of difficult octave passages. His tone production is of the highest quality and his interpretations are said to be full of soul. Under the auspices of the Vancouver Chloral and Orchestral Society they will be heard in Lehman's song-cycle, "In a Persian Garden."

Surprised the Natives.—The unusual spectacle of two fine touring automobiles going along the streets of Nanaimo with the C. P. R. officials' party, on Wednesday evening, caused quite a furore amongst the inhabitants of the Coal City, according to the Nanaimo Herald, which says further: "Quite a crowd gathered at the wharf to see the autos taken on board. The gangplank was not in the best position for easy riding, being first down grade and then up, both being pretty steep inclines and a short distance to travel. Capt. Troup didn't hesitate, however, and sailed merrily down and up and on to the narrow deck of the Joan, with a precision that was admirable, leaving the machine on the far side of the deck and turned with her nose to the prow as if she had been placed in position by stevedores. The space left for Mr. Ker's machine was too small to permit of any manoeuvring on the deck, and he wisely decided to put her on by hand, and it was quite interesting to observe the Honorables Capt. Tarlow and Col. Prior, with all the high types of the greatest transcontinental railway in the world, grunting like navvies while they pushed that monster machine on the deck. The successful accomplishment of the work was greeted with loud applause."

(From Saturday's Daily.)

A Big Shark.—Amongst the catches in the fish traps on the west coast on Thursday was a monster shark, which proved quite an attraction along the waterfront. It was 15 feet in length, and estimates made of its weight went all the way from 1,000 to 1,500 pounds.

Investigating Pests.—J. R. Anderson, deputy minister of agriculture, is visiting the Nanaimo district at the request of the Nanaimo Agricultural Association, complaints having been made that pests are doing great damage to the fruit trees. He will thoroughly investigate the situation.

Goes to Africa.—P. C. Craig, of Nanaimo, monoline operator in the Herald office, has signed a contract to spend one or two years in Bloomfontein, South Africa, in setting up and operating monoline composing machines. He will leave today for Montreal. Mr. Craig has a sound contract on good terms.

From the Ashes.—The Fernie Free Press, redivivus after the recent fire, is again at hand, slightly altered in appearance, but with the usual budget of news. Though the plant of the paper was destroyed, publication was made possible by the courtesy of contemporaries, for which kindness the Free Press is deeply grateful.

Returning From London.—A cable message is to the effect that Hugh Cecil, of Ladysmith, who is now in London in connection with his Vancouver Island mining enterprises, in which a number of Victorians are interested, has arranged his affairs satisfactorily and expects soon to return to British Columbia.

Inspect Lumbering.—Mr. John Murray, provincial timber officer, left for the Skeena river by the steamer Tees, and while away will inspect lumbering and logging operations in the northern part of the province contiguous to the Skeena.

A Railway Rumor.—It is rumored in railway circles in St. Paul that James N. Hill, eldest son of James J. Hill, will become first vice-president of the Northern Pacific railroad, to succeed Col. Daniel S. Lamont, who died recently. Mr. Hill was vice-president of his father's road from 1893 until three years ago, when he resigned on account of failing health. It is said that his health is much improved.

Dawson Mail Service.—An effort is being made by Postmaster J. N. Hartman of Dawson to arrange to have all mail, even of the third and fourth classes, taken to Dawson over the trail from White Horse during the coming winter. Arrangements may be made to have third-class and fourth-class mail taken in by freight. Heretofore the quantity of mail sent to Dawson in the winter has been limited.

Big Bill of Costs.—At Vancouver on Thursday T. S. Baxter made application for certiorari in the case of Paul and Herbert Gladuck, who had been fined by two magistrates in Atlin county $20 and $82 costs each for intimidating another prospector into abandoning his application on the ground that the offence had never been proved, and, at the same time, the bill of costs, amounting to $164, was excessive. Mr. Justict Duff granted a rule nisi for the production of all the documents in the case and all the evidence will be carefully reviewed.

Important Contract.—The contract for the hydraulic and electrical machinery for the City of Nelson power plant on the Kootenay river has been awarded to Allis-Chalmers-Bullock, Limited, Montreal. The tenders were: Canadian General Electric Co., $32,000 for the electrical machinery; the Canadian Westinghouse Co., $31,376.00 for the electrical machinery, and Allis-Chalmers-Bullock, Limited, $29,985.00 for the electrical and $13,600 for the hydraulic machinery. The latter company, having tendered for both the hydraulic and electrical machinery, had an advantage over the other two and was awarded the contract.

Traffic Officials Coming.—W. R. MacInnes, freight traffic manager of the C. P. R., and F. W. Peters assistant freight traffic manager of western lines of the same railway, are expected about August 15th. Mr. MacInnes has left Montreal, his headquarters, and he is now en route west to Winnipeg, where he will be joined by Mr. Peters, and together they will come leisurely westward to the coast, inspecting freight traffic matters on the way out. It is reported that Mr. MacInnes and Mr. Peters will spend a week or ten days on the coast. While here they will run over the E. & N. railway and will also pay a visit to the C. P. R. agencies on Puget Sound.

Reached Victoria.—Little Miss Violet Bradshaw, who has attained so much undesired notoriety in the press by completing without attendance the long and troublesome journey across the Atlantic, across the great Canadian continent and across the Rocky Mountains into this western Province of British Columbia, has arrived in due course, in good health and capital spirits, at her home in Victoria. That this little one, 8 years old, should, all alone, have accomplished what in earlier days may well have been the boast of many a hoary headed traveler, seems to be a matter of small wonder to the parents of the child, who somewhat resent the intrusion of the press man into their private affairs. To these good, prosaic souls it seems a simple thing.

Slaughtering Game.—Northern passengers tell of open and very flagrant violations of the game and fishing laws up the coast. Both fish and fowl are suffering from the effects of ill-usage in this particular. As for deer, not even does or fawns are respected. A fishing party at the Village lakes on Valdez island a few days ago found plenty of evidence of the use of dynamite in the trout streams. Scores of fingerlings were there floating on the surface of a promising pool. On Reade island, Siwashes said to have come from Squirrel Cove have lately been ruthlessly slaughtering the deer. Does' heads and fawns' skins are openly scattered around their camps. Grouse, both birds and chickens, have been so freely shot that it will be a hard matter to get a bag when the season opens.

Goes to Alberni.—Rev. Mr. Wimberley, who for some years past has held the combined incumbency of North, South and Southwest Saanich of the Anglican church, has at length elected to relinquish the arduous duties of that widespread parish, the strain of which has long been telling upon his health. The reverend gentleman has been transferred by the Lord Bishop of the diocese to the important district of Alberni, whither he will proceed as rector forthwith. Mr. Wimberley will carry with him the earnest good wishes and appreciation of the large and cultured section of the community amongst whom he has labored with self-sacrificing zeal and attachment throughout his term of office.

Big Poultry Show.—The first poultry exhibition representative of the whole Pacific Northwest will be held in connection with the Lewis and Clark exposition in October, the dates being from the 5th to the 11th of the month, inclusive. Preparations for the show are being pushed as rapidly as possible and the coming exhibition already has attracted national attention. As an example of the widespread interest manifested the statement is made that inquiries regarding the poultry show have come from as far east as Fall River, Mass., and that Frank P. Johnson, of Indianapolis, a prominent breeder of Indian bramas, is making arrangements to bring to Portland a carload of birds from that city.

Unlucky Teacher.—An unfortunate accident happened recently to Mr. Monk, teacher of the North Saanich school. He was entering the house when he was attacked by a large St. Bernard dog, the furious beast inflicting serious wounds. The animal was promptly shot. A previous accident occurred recently on the wharf at Beaver Point, Salt Spring Island, where Mr. Monk's Japanese servant had driven with wagon and team to meet the steamer Iroquois. The Jap, in backing the horses onto the wharf, lost control, and the whole equipage was precipitated into the sea, one valuable mare being drowned.

Interested in British Columbia.—A letter has been received from J. H. Turner, provincial agent general in London, acknowledging the receipt of views and pamphlets from the Kootenay Tourist Association, and asking for more of the latter. Mr. Turner says that he is constantly in receipt of inquiries, verbal and written, about British Columbia. The inquiries generally come from the class that make the most desirable settlers. They are people with enough capital to enable them to make a fair beginning, and most of them have already had some experience of fruit growing and general farming.

Trans-Pacific Traffic.—According to a special despatch from Winnipeg, William Whyte, second vice-president of the company, has expressed himself to the effect that he believes the traffic over the line from the middle west to Vancouver, will, perhaps, within his time equal that eastward, for the commerce with the Orient is increasing by leaps and bounds. By the close of the present year the road will be equipped with eighty-pound rails from coast to coast, a condition which will permit of the hauling of any kind of a train at the highest possible speed. It is also the intention of the company to construct a new jetty at Vancouver harbor at a cost of a quarter of a million dollars. While the double-tracking scheme shows that the wheat trade east is becoming very important, the energies of the company in the westerly direction is evidence that transpacific traffic is not being lost sight of.

Edith Grant's Case.—Edith Grant, the young girl whom her mother and the Indian chief at Cape Mudge are endeavoring to remove from the care of the Children's Aid Society, was produced in court in obedience to the ruling of Mr. Justice Morrison that she should be there and that cause should be shown in her behalf why she should not be handed over to her mother. The case was adjourned by Mr. Justice Duff to next Thursday. She is an attractive little miss, bright-eyed, with luxuriant tresses and clear complexion. She is distinctly Caucasian, and this is further evidenced by the ready manner in which her English has improved since she has been under the tutelage of the Children's home. When her case was reached she followed every word. Whilst not able to grasp the fine constitutional points which have been raised on the habeas proceedings, she no doubt realizes that her future depends in no little degree on the decision to be rendered.

Tour of the World.—At Winnipeg on Tuesday evening at 5:20 o'clock J. N. Milette and J. E. Talbot of St. Boniface left on a trip around the world. The first stage of their journey is from Winnipeg to St. Paul, whence they go to Portland, Ore., and thence to San Francisco. The trip is being made on a bet of $5,000, and to win the money Messrs. Milette and Talbot must arrive at St. Boniface in August, 1908, with a complete certified register of the places touched at on the tour. On their arrival at each place they will proceed to the postoffice and get the postmaster to sign his name and stamp the date of their arrival, and when leaving they will get his signature again and a date stamp. They are to earn their expenses while on the trip.

See Salt Water.—Messrs. K. C. B. Prith and R. K. Steven of Greenwood, B. C., reached here yesterday and are stopping at the Commercial, says the Vancouver Province. After devoting three days to sight seeing in Vancouver the visitors will proceed to the Portland fair, making brief stops at Victoria and Seattle. Mr. Frith is postmaster at Greenwood and owns extensive mining interests in the upper country. His traveling companion, Mr. Steven, is steward of the Greenwood club. Both gentlemen are delighted with Vancouver. Mr. Steven is an old-time resident in the Kootenays, and not having seen salt water for ten years, is enjoying the change to a lower level. He was raised near the seashore in Scotland, hence Mr. Steven, since his arrival, has shown a great partiality for the bathing beach at English bay.

A "Thoroughbred."—Yesterday afternoon Mr. J. T. Wilkinson, of Vancouver, Chilliwack and other places, arrived from Vancouver to take charge of a fine black mare which he had sent down from his ranch in the garden of the Fraser, says the Vancouver World. The name of this beautiful piece of horseflesh is Collora, sire the late famous Colloquy of the Wilkinson string. She is a half-sister of the prize pair of mares which Mr. Wilkinson disposed of to Mr. Wade, and a full sister of Red Lea, who won the futurity stakes at two years old. Collora is a solid black and is four years of age. She had never been broken to harness, so J. T., who is passionately fond of his animals, undertook to reach Vancouver in her company by driving and walking. The pair set out together at 3 p. m., and four hours later they arrived in the Terminal City with misadventure and the best of friends. Mr. Wilkinson was feeling so fresh after his walk yesterday afternoon that he was making all kinds of bets for a race around Stanley park. "That proves the thoroughbred in me," he triumphantly remarked as he turned from a group of friends last evening to get his pet black and take her for a drive.

(From Sunday's Daily.)

Goes to Duncan's.—The Cowichan Leader announces that S. B. Netherby will be placed in charge of the Duncan school when the fall term opens.

Completing Hotel.—The new hotel at Cowichan bay is nearing completion and is a neat looking building. It commands a very nice view of the bay and mountains.

Exhibit of Grain.—John A. Fraser, manager of the Reed estate, Quesnel, called on Mayor Keary of New Westminster and stated that a large exhibit of grain, seeds and fruit is coming to the Dominion fair from the Reed ranch. Mr. Fraser promises something in these divisions which will make the growers of the coast sit up and take considerable notice.

Lay Corner Stone.—A very interesting ceremony is to take place in Duncans on or about the 26th of this month, when the grand master of the Masonic jurisdiction with his grand lodge officers will lay the corner stone of the new church. The building will be dedicated to St. John the Baptist. This will be the first public Masonic function seen in Duncans and an interesting ceremony.

Purchased Boilers.—The Canada Foundry Company, Ltd., has recently closed a contract with the Western Fuel Company for two seventy-two-inch diameter by eighteen feet long a hundred-and-fifty-horsepower horizontal tubular boilers, working pressure a hundred and twenty-five pounds per square inch, complete with smokestacks fifty inches in diameter by ninety feet.

Revisited Province.—Sister Sarah, a member of the Anglican Sisterhood in charge of All Hallows school at Yale, left for England last week, after a short visit to British Columbia. Sister Sarah is the eldest daughter of the late Ven. Archdeacon Woods of New Westminster, and this was her first visit to the province since she left for England to join the order eighteen years ago.

Rich Mineral Strike—Reports which have just come from the North confirm the story of a rich mineral strike on Iron creek, in the Yukon. The first crowd which went into the district have brought back such glowing accounts of the prospects that there is now a small stampede on from Atlin to the point. Iron creek is a small creek which empties into the Nisutlin, and thence flows into Teslin lake. The last news confirms the previous reports that a bona fide strike had been made in the district.

A Bisley Souvenir.—Captain Hart-McHarg, of the Sixth Regiment, has received an interesting Bisley souvenir in the shape of a picture postcard from Captain Forrest. It represents a group photograph of the Canadian team, Kolapore cup winners, with their scores on the blackboard behind them. Captain Forrest himself is easily distinguished, as also are Captain Duff-Stuart of Vancouver, Richardson of Victoria and others. Their respective scores are also easily deciphered, including the 103 of Elliott of Toronto, which practically decided the destination of the trophy.

In Good Condition.—Wm. Newman, the new roadmaster for the island division of the C. P. R., has been making a tour of inspection of the road bed and bridges and reports that so far as he had gone the road and bridges were in excellent condition. Mr. Newman has been with the company for over twenty years and is well qualified to speak, says the Cowichan Leader. He is also well liked by his men, as shown when he left Revelstoke, for those employed in his department, together with the citizens, presented Mr. and Mrs. Newman with a fine silver tea set, a cut glass set and a beautifully embossed address.

Oyster Expert.—E. Kemp, the oyster expert, will leave for Barkley Sound, West Coast, on the Queen City next week. After inspecting the beds in which oysters and lobsters were planted in the vicinity of Nanaimo, he was very much surprised at the wonderful growth they had made so far, and also discovered in some of them spawn which must have formed since the oysters were laid down. This Mr. Kemp considers a most promising sign, and although this spawn may not come to anything this season, he says this gives indication that next year the oysters will propagate, and that the situations where they have been placed are suitable.

Mr. Cassidy Adrift.—At 8 o'clock last night Mr. Robert Cassidy, of the legal firm of Martin Cassidy, Weart & McQuarrie, with his hand placed lovingly on the starting lever of the gasoline engine of his launch, was explaining to a number of friends how impossible it was for a gasoline engine to get out of order, when one understood how to manage it, says the Vancouver Province. This was out in the middle of English Bay. At 8:05 Mr. Cassidy's craft was a derelict. She lay wallowing in the little wavelets as darkness was dropping over the water. The craft possessed no anchor, no lights and no whistle. But Mr. Cassidy and his friends had good and powerful lungs and the noise they made resulted in their being picked up by the cannery tug Constance, on her way from the Great Northern cannery to the city. The disabled launch was towed home, much to the delight of the party, none of whom wished to put in the night drifting about the bay.

Island Fruit Crops.—Reports from the lower Island farming districts regarding the season's fruit crop are, with one or two exceptions, most satisfactory. In the Ladysmith district there are many large orchards, consisting chiefly of apple and plum trees, and in nearly all cases this year ranchers are expressing delight with the excellent condition of the trees and the enormous quantities of fruit they are bearing. For apples especially this season has been a good one, and providing the trees keep clear of all pests the fall will see the market well stocked with this fruit. On a few farms the plum crop is good, and a considerable quantity have already been gathered.

Yukon Forest Fires.—Word from the North is to the effect that again a warm wave has swept over Southeastern Alaska and the Canadian Yukon, and again bush fires are raging in many places, licking up valuable timber. Men were put to work near Skagway by the registrar of the United States land office stationed at Juneau, who was notified by wire of the damage being done. The men employed, if unable to put out the flames, will use all their efforts to keep them from spreading any further. Reports from Atlin, Dawson and other Canadian Yukon points are to the effect that the fiery fiend is also getting in its deadly work and destroying valuable timber there.

Travel Heavy.—Travel continues remarkably heavy from the Sound cities. On her arrival from Seattle yesterday afternoon the steamer Whatcom had no less than 258 passengers, included being 178 who took advantage of the cheap rates prevailing on Saturday and Sunday to pay a visit to the British Columbia capital. A similar big volume of business characterized traffic on the popular steamer Princess Victoria.

Grand Chancellor's Trip.—Geo. Johnson, grand chancellor of the grand domain of British Columbia, Knights of Pythias, has returned from his official visit to the various lodges of the order, which are located in almost every settled corner of the province. Mr. Johnson is much pleased with the reception tendered him throughout his trip, and speaks hopefully of the outlook for the order in the Kootenay and Boundary country, where, in spite of the depression prevalent throughout that district, the lodges in that part are enjoying a steady increase in membership and are in a flourishing condition. Before making his official visit to the British Columbia lodges Mr. Johnson paid a visit to the grand lodge of the Northwest, which was in session in Calgary.

Fruit Pests.—After a visit through the Nanaimo district with Rev. G. W. Taylor and Mr. A. C. Wilson, Mr. J. R. Anderson, deputy minister of agriculture, was unable to find any trace of San Jose scale, and the rumor that got abroad to that effect a short time ago may therefore be considered a mistake. There is an instance of European fruit scale with which the other seems to have been confounded, but that is not of the same dangerous nature as the San Jose. On the whole Mr. Anderson does not think that the district is in very bad condition as regards fruit pests, in comparison with other parts of the province, although there are a number of old trees that should be cut down, as they are too diseased to try to save.

GOOD DIGESTION.

If you can keep your digestive system in proper condition the body will be well nourished and you need have little fear of disease. By regulating the kidneys, liver and bowels Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills ensure a healthful condition of the organs of digestion and for this reason are indispensible as a family medicine.

Petition For Tram Line Extension

Residents of North Douglas St Ask for Street Car Facilities.

Arguments Advanced to Show Need for the Proposed Change.

This week a deputation of residents in the neighborhood of Douglas street, consisting of Alan Dumbleton, Rev. W. Baugh Allen, George Dunn, Peter Elliston, presented to the local manager of the B. C. Electric Railway a petition signed by 400 residents of the Saanich road district.

The petition requested the company to extend the tram line for one mile along the Saanich road from the present Douglas street terminus, and was as follows:

Victoria, B. C., June 1, 1905.

A. T. Goward, Esq., Local Manager B. C. Electric Railway Co., Victoria, B. C.:

Dear Sir,—We the undersigned residents of the city of Victoria and Victoria District in the immediate vicinity of Saanich road, wish to request your company to extend for about one mile the tram line along Saanich road. This extension would be of great convenience to the large number of residents in that vicinity, and we are sure you would find it well patronized.

Your petitioners wish to point out that the tram line at one time ran as far as Tolmie avenue, and a number of persons purchased property and built expecting that the line would still continue to run as far. The discontinuing to do so has worked a hardship in these cases.

The line in all possibility could be constructed at a much less cost than ordinarily, as the posts of the old line still remain.

Since discontinuing to run, the population in this vicinity has increased so much that we feel we are justified from a business point of view in asking you to extend the line. In event of your extending it we promise you your support.

Hoping you will give this your favorable consideration, we are

Yours respectfully.

Mr. Elliston Speaks

Mr. Elliston in supporting the petition for the extension of the tramway along the Saanich road, said: There are several additional considerations that I beg to bring before your notice.

During the last session of the provincial parliament a grant was allowed for the construction of a road from the late Hon. Theodore Davie's house straight up into Columbia avenue. This new road will bring you right into the midst of the fruit district. As you may perhaps be aware, during the past few years, there has sprung up on the north side of Victoria a very considerable fruit industry. Pioneers like Mr. Fred Saul and Mr. Palmer, have proved that fruit can be raised on this high ground with great success and profit. The consequence being that along Columbia avenue and the immediate vicinity the land owners have planted out a great number of trees. For about one and one-half miles along each side of the road are neatly cultivated orchards that in a year or so will be fine trees bearing great quantities of apples, pears, plums and cherries.

In addition to the above, from about the end of May till the end of August there is raised a succession of small fruits and vegetables. This year large quantities of rhubarb, strawberries, raspberries, blackberries and logan berries were sent to market. The strawberries alone, and this year a bad year, amounted to two thousand crates. This is only a drop compared to the volume that will be forthcoming in a year or two. As soon as the small fruit crop is over, the cherries and plums come on, these are followed by pears and apples and the harvest continues till Christmas.

At present there are something in the neighborhood of 3,000 trees planted and growing, many of them bearing. At a moderate estimate you get a box of fruit per tree, so that would give 3,000 boxes. I know for a fact that next spring another 30 acres are to be planted out in fruit trees.

Business Opportunities

All these goods have to be taken to Victoria for shipment to the Northwest and other markets, and the present method of carting with horse and wagon is slow, expensive and out of date. The best made wagon is bumpy and shakes up the fruit, with perishable goods this is a very important consideration, and on a well laid cartrack it would reach Victoria in a very much better condition.

In the same way as there is a large quantity of freight going out, there is a certain quantity coming in. We want oats, foodstuffs, hay, empty boxes and all the stable manure we can get from the city. If you had a track out to the district you could do this cheaper for us than horse haulage and at a profit to yourselves. Fruits cannot be raised and picked without labor, in the strawberry season you require six or seven pickers to an acre. These pickers have to get from Victoria and return at night. Londowners would willingly pay the pickers' fare, because a man riding out on a car will be fresher and more ready for work than a man who has walked out two and one-half miles along a dusty road. I should say the number of pickers required next year will be near 100 men.

Now, in pointing out the possibilities of the fruit traffic I have not touched on other channels from which your company might draw a revenue. I allude to the tourist traffic.

The B. C. Electric Railway Company has just extended its lines to the Gorge. Now to get to the Gorge you have a ride through a hot too beautiful part of Victoria. All you hope to make out of the Gorge line is out of pleasure traffic during the summer months. Now, if you are willing to extend your limits up to Columbia avenue via the new Cloverdale avenue as far say for the present as the pumping station, we offer you a double advantage.

Beauties of the District

Any strangers visiting Victoria who have visited this part of the country unanimously agreed that from no part of the peninsula do you get no fine a view. As you climb by easy grade from the Saanich road you get a magnificent view of the city, the Straits and the mountains beyond. Reaching Columbia avenue, if you care to get off the road on to the high hill at the side, you can see a stretch of scenery unrivalled in the world, Mount Baker, the Olympias, Cedar Hill, the Islands towards Vancouver, and Swan Lake, with the valley around, all lie, so to speak, at your feet. The ride in the cars to Portland Heights cannot compare in any way with this. Vancouver Island is to be the fruit garden of Canada; there you have orchards. In the spring you have the trees with their various blossoms to show the tourist. In the Annapolis Valley it is the custom for the railway companies to run excursions from Boston, Halifax and St. John's just to see the trees in bloom. Hundreds of people avail themselves of this opportunity. If you go to the orange district of California the first thing you want to see are the groves and the local tramways give you every facility to see them. It ought to be the same way in Victoria, and you could have no better district to show the tourist than Columbia avenue. Men have put considerable money and trouble into the fruit business and have made a success of it, and it is now the time to get hold of the people visiting and to take them up and show them what can be done, so that they may come, settle and do likewise for the benefit of themselves and Victoria.

Again, there is one more matter and that is that from here is but a step to Cordova Bay. Cordova Bay ought to be too well known to Victorians to speak of its merits. Every summer its beach is lined with summer campers. What a site for development, with its splendid bathing and boating facilities?

If the B. C. Electric Railway Company is not prepared to move in this matter, it is possible that the fruit-growers will furnish a motor to carry their freight to market. If this were done, when at some future date you do carry the tracks up this way, you will find that the freight business has slipped from your hands, if the industry has been started and you ought to be in to share in the profits.

In conclusion, that once the car line reaches this part of Victoria, there are a great number of people who will take up land and settle.

THE TYEE COPPER COMPANY.

We published yesterday the proceedings of the sixth ordinary meeting of the shareholders of the Tyee Copper Company, Limited, which was held on July 18th in London, Eng. In view of the success which has been achieved by that company in opening up and developing the Tyee mine and in erecting and operating a smelter, which is now in full blast, it will be generally regretted that there should be the elements of discord among the leading shareholders which apparently exist. There have been differences as to the policy which should be pursued and a struggle for the control of stock in order to enforce the policies of the respective elements. There are, of course, in all commercial companies more or less differences among the shareholders, of which the public may or may not hear, as the case may be. The shareholders who are wise keep their troubles to themselves, within the family, so to speak.

In this case, the division is confined apparently to a question as to whether a dividend of profits actually earned should be declared or deferred, or, as one gentleman expressed it, "to postpone the matter until the end of our financial year, when we should have an opportunity to view the position of the mine in the light of practical results in the meantime."

It is therefore a matter of policy as to dividend-paying, upon which the shareholders take issue. It does not in any way affect the position of affairs at the mine or smelter. It is not really the province of a newspaper to comment upon the merits of this dispute, because company matters are private matters, and should be viewed in the same light as the business of an individual. The only difference being that a number are interested instead of one. It would appear, however, to be a wise policy to carry out what has now been decided upon. A good many might be inclined to regard it as a mistake to have declared any dividends at all until the position of the mine had been determined. In consequence of the failure to discover new ore bodies the output was reduced from 5,000 tons per month to 4,000 tons, and subsequently to 2,000, in order to gain time for development work in search of new ore reserves. Needless to say, the profit-earning power of a mine producing only 2,000 tons of ore are greatly restricted as compared with a mine producing 5,000 tons per month. In the meantime the smelter is enabled to make contracts for ore from other sources, so that it has not been necessary to close down. In fact, the prospects of the Ladysmith smelter obtaining a supply of coast and Alaskan ores sufficient to keep it well supplied are very good indeed. We are glad to know that its treatment of customers has been such as to secure the confidence of mine owners having ore to ship.

In regard to the discovery of new ore bodies in the Tyee mine, we believe that there is every reason to suppose that development with that end in view will be successful. That is the opinion of the management, and is the opinion of leading experts who have examined the workings and formation. It is not reasonable to suppose that the present reserves include all the ore in the Mt. Sicker camp. If so, it would be a cruel blow to all our hopes. While, therefore, the differences which have developed among the shareholders of this property are in one sense nobody's business but their own, the questions involved are at the same time of very great interest to the people of Victoria, the Island of Vancouver, and, in fact, to the whole of the Province.

SAVINGS BANK SUSPENDS.

Institution in Paris Temporarily Closes Its Doors.

Paris, Aug. 3.—A notice was posted today announcing the temporary suspension of payments by the savings bank connected with the Printemps, one of the largest department stores in Paris. The announcement has caused great excitement.

THIRTY REPORTED KILLED.

Large Mortality Said to Have Been Caused by Explosion.

Kingston, N. Y., Aug. 3.—It is reported here that a number of men, said to be thirty or more, were killed by an explosion at Esopus today. No details of the accident have been received, and the number of men said to have been killed has not been confirmed.

How Japanese Worked Chinese

Merchant of Hongkong Tells How Grafters Worked a Clever Game.

Induced Chinese to Fit Out Vessels and Caused Them to Be Seized.

That grafters claiming to represent the Japanese government deliberately led a clique of wealthy Chinese at Hongkong into a trap and filched goods of them to the value of several million dollars is the opinion expressed by H. Ruttongee, a merchant at Hongkong during the past twenty-one years, who is now in Seattle en route on a trip around the world.

H. Ruttongee has grown wealthy in the Orient in the hotel and delicatessen business, and, although a native of India, speaks the English language with an unusual fluency. With two friends, H. C. Gotia, of Hongkong, and M. N. Mehta, of Calcutta, wealthy tradesmen and countrymen, he registered yesterday at the Seattle.

"Of course, some of my information comes from an unofficial source," said Mr. Ruttongee, "but I know the particulars of the case in a general way and see no reason to doubt the truth of the charges, because in my business relations at Hongkong I came into immediate contact with many who were mixed up in the affair.

Were to Run Blockade

"Early during the blockade of Port Arthur a Japanese reached Hongkong and became exceedingly friendly with several of the wealthy Chinese residents. He purported to have secret communication with Japanese officials on the squadron before the beseiged port, and when his acquaintance had led to the proper stage of confidence he informed two or three that he had a secret agreement with his friends on the blockade line to allow a vessel to slip by with provisions and supplies for the beseiged.

"The scheme, as you Americans call it, was a 'winner,' and it was not long until a sufficient sum had been raised by the Chinese merchants to put a cargo worth fully three-quarters of a million dollars aboard a vessel, and, as per the original agreement, it passed the blockade. So far as I ascertained, this fact was never made public, and in the papers of Hongkong no mention was made of it.

Big Clean-Up

"The men in this venture cleaned up a couple of hundred thousand dollars on the deal, and, with the understanding that they were not to be molested, fitted out another vessel. These were seized by the blockading fleet and their cargoes confiscated, and the loss to the ring of Chinese merchants who put up the money exceeded $2,000,000. Of course, I do not say that the Japanese government was cognizant of the deal.

"As to business in Hongkong, I have not seen it so dull in ten years. This is attributable largely to the war. Another factor was the losses suffered by