

# ROSSLAND WEEKLY MINER.

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## AS TO CHINESE CHEAP LABOR.

**Five Managers and Others who Gave Evidence Yesterday. The Commission will Examine Witnesses at Nelson Today.**

(From Tuesday's Miner.)

The royal commission appointed to enquire into the question of the desirability of excluding Oriental immigration reconvened in the city hall at 10:30 o'clock yesterday morning, and after hearing the testimony of Mr. Edmund B. Kirby, Mr. MacDonald, James Devine, Thomas H. Long and William Harp, adjourned to convene in Nelson at 10 o'clock this morning. Before the commission completes its labors it intends to visit Seattle and San Francisco for the purpose of securing certain information there. After adjourning the members spent the afternoon in visiting the mines, and expressed themselves as surprised at the extent and importance of the mining industry in the camp.

Mr. Edmund B. Kirby, manager of the Centre Star and War Eagle, was the first witness called. He testified that no Chinese or Japanese were employed in the mines under his management, nor had there ever been any employed. So far as the mining industry is concerned he saw no necessity for employing Orientals, but the War Eagle Hotel company, which was under his control, had one or two Chinese in the laundry and one or two in the bank houses. The War Eagle Hotel company is not now operating the hotel, as it is now under a lease. The lessees have one Chinese employed as a cook in the hotel. Outside of these Chinese are not employed except by members of the staff in their private homes. Three members of the staff employ Chinese as servants. The number of Chinese employed in the War Eagle and Centre Star at present is 325 and in January 400 were working for the two companies.

In answer to a question as to the experience with Chinese in the United States Mr. Kirby said: "I was employed mainly as a mining recorder, and I have never known of the employment of Chinese in any mines but placer mines. I have had experience in mining in Colorado, which I made my headquarters, and in nearly all of the other western mining states during the past 15 years. So far as I have been able to learn, the Chinese seem to have been employed in working placers after the original richness of the ground had been worked out. The placers would be closed down and the owners would accept the offers of the Mongols to lease the properties under either a lump sum or a royalty. The royalty system generally a failure, because no one could tell how much gold the Chinese took out. I can only guess why the Chinese were not employed in the lode mines in the United States and elsewhere. I think that their ability as miners would be rather doubtful, for the reason that they are not physically as strong as white men, and their limited knowledge of English would make them hard to train as miners. Besides their mining superintendents would have to consider that the employment of Chinese would raise more or less trouble with the men. I have never known of this question of the employment of Chinese in the lode mines being raised. In regard to the operation of the Chinese exclusion act in the United States, I remember in a vague way the discussion in relation to it. There was a strong element which favored expulsion as well as exclusion. The idea finally adopted by the majority was that the easier way, and the one that would entail the least hardship, would be to exclude and not to expel them, and they were already in the country. I do not know enough about the matter to state what the effects of the restriction and exclusion acts in the United States have been. I believe that there would be no result, an inconvenience if no more Chinese came into the country. I do not think it would be in the best interests of the community to let Japanese labor come into it. It is my impression that the plan adopted by the United States was worked out in a fairly satisfactory manner.

There are enough Chinese throughout the west to provide for domestic tasks, do laundry work and perform other tasks which white labor is unwilling to undertake. Up to that point the Chinese do not do any harm, but are a benefit, and I find that this is almost the universal opinion of men all through the west. The reason for this is that there is a gap for which there is no supply of white labor to fill. The caste prejudice against domestic service is each year becoming stronger, and the girls seem most reluctant to enter into it. In the east the difficulty of finding good house servants becomes greater every year. This caste prejudice induces girls to go into more unhealthy and less remunerative classes of employment rather than to go out to service, and it must be remembered that in that section of the country there is no competition with Chinese.

I do not think there is a great deal of work around the mines that could be done by Chinese. It is certain that no one would undertake to teach them the skilled occupations.

Mr. Bernard M. McDonald, manager of the Le Ro, Le No. 2, Rossland and Great Western and Kootenay mines, was the next witness. He testified that there were between 800 and 900 men employed in the several mines under his management, and out of this number one Chinese was acting as janitor in the office.

## GUESSING AT THE POPULATION.

**Eastern Cities Trying to Forestall Census Bulletins. Work to be Commenced on Nipissing and James Bay Railway.**

Montreal, May 29.—The Herald tonight states that Henri Bourassa, M.P. for Labelle, who is at odds with the Liberal party on the South African contingent question, may enter a protest. He is said to be disgusted with politics.

The Herald publishes an Ottawa despatch estimating the population of Montreal at 300,000, a gain of 43-2 per cent. The suburbs bring the total to over 400,000.

Toronto, May 29.—A contract was signed at North Bay last night by MacKenzie and Mann for clearing and grading the first section of the Nipissing & James Bay railway. Grading will begin immediately.

Tweed, Ont., May 29.—Peter Laberge, foreman in the Rathburn mill, was yesterday killed this afternoon. He fell in front of a moving railway car, which passed over his head.

Toronto, May 29.—The exportation of live stock to Europe continues heavily. Forty cars left this city last night for Quebec via Portland.

Quebec, May 29.—Antoine Tachereau, K.C., ex-M.P. for Beauce, died this morning of apoplexy.

Ottawa, May 29.—It is estimated here from returns already in that the census will show a population of 300,000.

Paris, Ont., May 29.—North Brant liberals yesterday renominated the present member, D. Burt, as their candidate for the local legislature.

Kincaidine, Ont., May 29.—Mrs. John McLeod was caught between the wheels of a buggy from which she attempted to alight, on account of her horse becoming restless, and received injuries resulting in her death.

Ottawa, May 29.—It is reported that the population of Toronto will be about 222,000.

Montreal, May 29.—Mr. I. Franklin, of 439 La Gauchetiere street, this city, has received a letter from the military authorities at Etobicoke, dated April 27, announcing the death of his son, Joseph Franklin, which occurred on April 23rd in the military hospital at that place of enteric fever.

Halifax, N.S., May 29.—There is a possibility of a strike in Sydney on June 1st. The bricklayers, masons and sand workers some time ago expected to put the union on foot in force on that date. The contractors have as yet taken no definite action, and the labor unions here are calling for a meeting this week to take action.

## CASUALTY LISTS

**TRANSVAAL STRUGGLE STILL EXACTS A HEAVY TOLL.**

**SUPPOSED APPEARANCE OF BUBONIC PLAGUE IN LONDON.**

London, May 29.—Casualty lists issued by the war office give 42 British killed and 101 wounded. The majority of the casualties occurred from May 22nd to May 25th and between Bethel and Standerton. In Eastern Transvaal, where Generations has been operating, an outbreak of bubonic plague has been discovered. Persons with whom he has come in contact were detained, but have now been released. The patient himself is still under observation.

In the automobile race from Paris to Bordeaux Fournier, with a Morse motor, made the run in eight hours, 44 minutes and 44.3 seconds. Farman was second in a Panhard motor, and occupied the distance in 9 hours and 49 minutes and 11 seconds. Girard, who arrived eighth among the contestants, won the James Gordon Bennett cup. He covered the distance in 11 hours and 44 minutes. The above are the revised times.

## AS IT SHOULD BE.

A Game Law That British Columbia Might Copy.

New York, May 29.—Seven large market baskets filled with game set out as bait at the cold storage warehouse of the Arctic Pressing company were carried into Judge Foster's court today to use as evidence against the firm charged with illegal possession of the game. Judge Foster ordered that the birds be kept in cold storage and used as evidence before the grand jury. The seizures to date total 13,000 birds.

## THE FRASER RISING.

Yale, B.C., May 29.—8 pm.—The river is 37 feet above low water mark. It has risen six inches since this morning.

Soda Creek, May 29.—8 P. M.—The river is up to last year's high water mark and still rising.

## MORE SAVAGERY IN THE SOUTH.

**A Colored Fiend Burned at the Stake by White Fiends. The Brutal Murder of a White Woman was the Negro's Crime.**

Barlow, Fla., May 29.—Fred Rochelle, a negro, 35 years of age, who at noon yesterday criminally assaulted and then murdered Mrs. Lena Taggart, a well known and respected white woman of this city, was burned at the stake here this afternoon in the presence of a throng of people.

The burning was on the scene of the negro's crime, within 100 yards of the principal thoroughfare of this city.

The assault and murder was one of the boldest and coldest-blooded crimes ever committed in Florida. At 10 o'clock yesterday morning Mrs. Taggart, who was a woman of good family and reputation, went fishing alone in a small row boat, which she kept at the city bridge over Piacoa creek. This is in full view of the public thoroughfare. A few minutes before noon, deciding to return home, she rowed her boat to the bridge and made it fast. A negro was fishing from the bridge at the time.

Mrs. Taggart started home and had proceeded only a few steps in the swamp toward the open prairie and thence to the street, when she was approached by Rochelle who had been hiding in the swamp. He seized her and she broke loose and screaming ran from the swamp into the prairie, where he overtook her.

After the assault, while she was prostrate, he held her with his hands and knees an taking his knife from his pocket cut her throat from ear to ear, causing instant death. He then walked to the negro who had been fishing on the bridge and who was thoroughly frightened, and asked him what he should do with the body. He was successful in his request he took the bleeding form in his arms and carried it back to the swamp, threw it down and escaped into the interior of the swamp.

In a few minutes the crime had been reported, and in less than an hour practically the entire city was in arms and a well armed posse was moving in every direction in search of the criminal. Bloodhounds were secured and all night a fruitless search was continued. This morning no trace of the negro had been secured, and the people were becoming more determined to apprehend him. The chances for his final escape seemed to grow.

About noon a courier arrived announcing that the negro had been captured by two negroes two miles south of the city. Poses were immediately on the trail, but the capture avoided detection and succeeded in getting their prisoner quickly into the city and in turning him over to the sheriff of Duval county. He had been made the street became congested with people and the crowd suggested as it marched on to the jail. In spite of the sheriff and a strong guard of extra deputies, who made every effort to protect him from mob violence, they surrounded the prisoner, and took up the march to the scene of the crime. He was half-dressed, and the top of his head was enveloped by a great throng of people of all ages, who were resolute and determined, but quiet and orderly. Scream after scream broke from the throng, followed by groans and prayers for mercy. At the bridge the mob turned toward the prairie and the top of the swamp and the scene of the negro's crime. By common consent burning was to be the penalty. There were no ropes or plans for lynching by hanging. The stake was the only suggestion as to the proper method of execution, and without organized effort and yet with apparently unanimous consent, a barrel was placed in the very spot where Mrs. Taggart was assaulted and murdered.

On this the negro was placed and chained to the stake. He pleaded for mercy, but in the crowd around him silence was the only response. There were no cheers, no shouting, no disorder. Before the chains around his body had been made fast cans of kerosene oil from many sources were passed to the front, and one of the leaders stepped to the negro and slowly and deliberately poured it upon him and they were well saturated. It was then 6 o'clock. The crowd was growing and business in the city had practically been suspended. When the match was applied the blaze quickly leaped skyward and the burning body took the only response. Then the fire broke back and the writhing body groaned and ceased and the only evidence of life was in the contortions of the muscles of the limbs.

For 15 minutes the body burned and a half hour from the minute of the application of the match only the charred bones were left as a reminder of the negro's crime and his fate. The crowd dispersed as orderly as it gathered and at 8:30 tonight the city was quiet.

## RUN OVER.

Cashier of the New York Life Insurance Company Killed.

New York, May 29.—E. O. Bale, cashier of the New York Life Insurance company, was run over today by an express wagon, and severely injured that he died in St. Mary's hospital.

## UP RED MOUNTAIN WILL ACCEPT THE BRITISH PLAN.

**AGREEMENT SIGNED AT OTTAWA ON BEHALF OF THE TWO ROADS. FINANCE MINISTER FIELDING GOES ON A TRIP TO EUROPE.**

Ottawa, May 29.—(Special.)—Judge Clark and Mr. Drinkwater, representing the C. P. R., and A. B. MacNeill, for the Red Mountain railway, met Mr. Blair today and signed an agreement permitting the Red Mountain road to cross the C. P. R. to the War Eagle and Centre Star mines, and for an interchange of traffic between the companies at that point. Mr. MacNeill afterwards left for Prince Edward Island.

Hon. W. S. Fielding intends going to England. He will likely go by the Commonwealth from Boston on Wednesday, along with the other ministers who have taken passage by that steamer.

## TWO EDITORS COMPARED.

The following, which will be read with interest, appears in the last issue of the Midway Advance:

The Nelson Tribune takes exception to the Advance re-printing the editorial utterances of the Rossland Miner and says that if we continue to copy editorial matter from that daily we shall be called "bare-brained." No doubt we will be the editor of the Tribune, but we can state without fear of successful contradiction that he is the only reader of this paper who objects to reading the few editorials that have been copied in this paper from the Rossland Miner. There are certain things that will bear repeating, and the Rossland Miner's editorials belong to this class and in this respect differ greatly from the editorials that appear in the columns of the Tribune, which are but a jumbled mass of confused ideas, written solely for the purpose of upholding certain schemes that are anything but beneficial to the country, but are as seen by the editor of the Tribune through the new gold-rimmed glasses which he had given him while in the East, where he made his grandstand play a few months ago. Exception could not easily be taken to any of the editorials of the Tribune without including the whole lot. They are all alike, continually harping on the same subjects; always extolling the merits of the Tribune; only departing from its pet themes to severely criticize an exchange for having written something that does not exactly conform with not exactly what the editor of the Tribune thinks—but what he has written. The reason the editor of the Tribune takes exception to our reprinting the Rossland Miner's editorials is apparent to all. It will be remembered that not so very long ago when the present editor of the Rossland Miner was editing the Nelson Miner, considerable discussion was engaged in between the two papers, with the result that the Miner scored an easy victory, but not without severely wounding the finer feelings of the editor of the Tribune. Since that time any editorial matter that is penned by the former editor of the Nelson Miner, but who is now acting in that capacity on the Rossland paper of the same name, so enrages the editor of the Nelson Tribune that he succumbs to the temptation of taking an editorial shot at it, but in every instance fails to score. The Tribune may be a power in Nelson, it may even be able to dictate to the Kootenays, but we are living in Yale, a different district altogether, and the Tribune will never see the day when it will be able, under its present ownership, to tell us what we must or must not write. Personally we do not believe the editor of the Tribune means all that he says, neither do we think that he is joking, but are of the opinion that much of what he writes is not what he really thinks but what it stands him in hand to say. If our style of editorials do not suit the editor of the Tribune, it is sad indeed, for we intend to go on in the future as we have in the past and even the most scathing remarks that the editor of the Tribune is capable of making, even when he has become infuriated at the sight of a Rossland Miner editorial, shall not prevail against us.

## WILL ACCEPT THE BRITISH PLAN.

**All the Powers are Reported to be Agreeable Thereto. Foreign Troops will be Promptly Removed From China.**

Berlin, May 29.—The correspondent of the Associated Press learns authoritatively that all the powers have accepted Germany's proposition to withdraw Field Marshal Count Von Waldersee from China and surrender the chief command. In accepting the proposition the United States expressed satisfaction at the extremely tactful and skillful manner in which Count Von Waldersee discharged his most difficult duties and at his great courtesy toward American Great Britain, other powers, especially Great Britain, have expressed themselves similarly.

In German circles the British proposition that China pay the indemnity by issuing bonds, making the interest and sinking fund payable yearly thereon, is now regarded as certain of being accepted. Perhaps the acceptance will be unanimous.

Germany's contingent remaining in Pe Chi Li, it is learned on authority, will be somewhat over 4,000 men. The officials here deprecate the idea that Germany has any private scheme in view in keeping so many men in China. The troops are staying there only as a guarantee of the fulfillment of peace conditions.

Tientsin, May 29.—Two British transports have arrived at Tong Ku to take troops direct to India. Another transport will arrive today to take the Beluchi regiment to Wei Hai Wei.

Gen. Voyron, the French commander, expects, soon that the evacuation has been decided upon, that the holding of countermand the order holding men troops temporarily in China. He anticipates the early arrival of the French transports.

Gen. Lorne Campbell, the British commander here, says the international situation at Tientsin is better than at any time since the arrival of the troops, though on the departure of the Americans the Russians objected to the British holding their flag on taken a w. But Gen. Woguck, the Russian commander, withdrew his objections.

## BLEW UP A BANK.

**Ohio Burglars Make a Ten Thousand Dollar Raid.**

Cleveland, Ohio, May 29.—The safe in the Mechanics' Banking company's office at Bradwood, Ohio, 12 miles north of Kosteria, was blown open by burglars last night and \$10,000 taken. The burglars got away on a hand car. The bank building was partially wrecked by the explosion.

## FISHERY DISPUTE.

**FISHERMEN OBJECT TO THE ACTION OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT.**

**CHANCES OF J. C. BROWN BEING THE NEW FINANCE MINISTER.**

Vancouver, May 29.—(Special.)—At a meeting of salmon fishermen this evening, with about 700 present, a resolution was passed condemning the action of the provincial government in taking over the fisheries, and asking the Dominion government to still keep control. G. R. Maxwell, M.P., attacked the canneries men fiercely and passed the lie to a statement of Taitlow, M.P.P., that the Dominion had neglected the fisheries.

The present complications between the canneries and fishermen show that it will be almost impossible to avoid a recurrence of last year's strike.

J. C. Brown, M.P.P., of Westminster, today said no authoritative announcement had yet been made regarding a successor to Hon. J. H. Turner as minister of finance. He would not deny, however, that the chances were strong that he himself would receive the appointment.

J. M. McKinnon has returned here with the news that he has bonded properties in Lillooet, owned by himself and associates, to New York capitalists for \$750,000. The purchase is to take place in the endorsement of Brewer, mining engineer's report and the report of their own expert. The properties are the Bend 'O' group, the Ida May group and the Countess group. McKinnon says he also bonded his copper property at Lund for \$200,000.

## TO PLANT AT THE POLE.

**Explorer Baldwin Gets Three Flags for That Purpose.**

New York, May 29.—Captain Evelyn R. Baldwin, of the Arctic Exploring Expedition, was the recipient tonight of three handsome banners, which he is pledged to plant at the North Pole, if he is fortunate enough to reach it. The presentations were made in the Scottish Rite hall in the consistency of the 32nd degree Masons. Captain Baldwin is a 32nd degree Mason. L. Knight Templar and a member of the Mecca Temple, Mystic Shrine. Each order presented a flag emblematic of the order.