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New Business For the Council

Ald. Williams Directs Attention to the Recent Unsatisfactory Sound Service.

Exhibit of Vancouver Island Minerals for the Post Office Lobby.

Two interesting resolutions, to each of which the signature of Alderman R. T. Williams is attached, were bulletined at the City hall yesterday, and will come up for consideration at the council meeting on Monday evening. Both are rich in "whereases," and deal with live subjects to the people of Victoria. The first reads:

"Whereas, The merchants, the storekeepers and the general public have been much inconvenienced since the loss of the regular mail steamer City of Kingston;

"And, Whereas, the Dominion government pays a subsidy for the carrying of the mails between Victoria and the Puget Sound ports;

"And, Whereas, a suitable American steamer for the purpose has not been much inconvenienced since the loss of the City of Kingston, nor is likely to be in the near future;

"And, Whereas, there is at present in Victoria harbor a British steamer most suitable for the purpose;

"Therefore, Be it resolved that the city clerk be instructed to communicate by wire with the postmaster general and our members at Ottawa, directing their attention to the necessity of securing the immediate services of the steamship Islander for carrying the mails between this city and the Puget Sound ports."

In connection with the proposal outlined in this resolution, both Agent Blackwood of the N. P. R. and Agent Norman Hardie of Dodwell & Co., Ltd., dispute the accuracy of the assumption that no suitable successor to the Kingston is likely to be put on the route in the near future. Both assert that the service will be materially improved with the Utopia in commission instead of the George E. Starr—the change taking place to-day.

The Utopia is of much the size and general appearance as the Rosalie, not so fast, perhaps, but well appointed and capable of maintaining her schedule and arriving daily by six o'clock. She will, however, be an emergency boat, and nothing more. The search among steamer builders and ship owners for a suitable craft to replace the Kingston permanently commenced the very day of that vessel's loss, and is now being continued, as Messrs. Blackwood and Hardie are daily looking for word of the purchase of a fast and suitable Eastern boat.

As for the Islander—or, indeed, any of the C. P. N. fleet—Mr. Blackwood interviewed the management of the owning company the day after the Kingston-Glenogle collision, and was informed that neither the Islander nor any of the other steamers of the C. P. N. fleet was available. It must not be lost sight of that a British steamer could call at only one Puget Sound port, and the mail contract can only be held by a steamer touching Port Townsend.

Manager Vincent of the C. P. N. Company also intimated to a Colonist staff man yesterday that there was no probability of the Islander taking up the Sound service. There had been no recent proposal in this direction, he said; the Islander was now on the ways; she could not do Puget Sound coasting; it was most improbable that either the Northern Pacific or Dodwell & Co., (Ltd.), would be willing to charter her or that she could get the mail contract—and, finally, she was booked for the Vancouver route just as soon as she resumes service.

The second of the resolutions referred to is likely to excite little, if any, opposition. It reads:

"Whereas, vast mineral deposits exist on Vancouver Island;

"And, Whereas, the development thereof is of the highest importance to the city of Victoria;

"And, Whereas, many tourists and business people arrive in Victoria without becoming aware of the fact;

"And, Whereas, a suitable place should be secured for placing a showcase containing such mineral productions in a prominent place to attract notice;

"And, Whereas, the lobby of the post-office is the most likely position wherein visitors and others would be attracted by such exhibit;

Therefore, Be it resolved, that the city clerk be instructed to communicate with the Honorable the Postmaster General, sending him a copy of this resolution, and respectfully requesting him to allow the city council to place a suitable showcase for holding such specimens in a convenient place in our postoffice."

By diverting the third paragraph of the preamble in this resolution from its intended meaning, and interpreting it literally, quite a number of those who read the resolution on the bulletin board yesterday were enabled to amuse themselves mightily.

Alderman Humphrey suggested that if "tourists and business people arrive in Victoria without becoming aware of the fact," a delicate compliment must be implied to the potency of the Scotch whiskey served on the steamers—or this part of the preamble may lead up to a proposal to increase the police force.

Others venture the proposition that the rapid service to Victoria lands tourists and business people here as breathless as though they had taken a record trip in the postoffice elevator.

But with all these little pleasantries, no one appears to be in the slightest degree opposed to the proposal contained in the resolution.

A MYSTERIOUS SHADOW.

From Forest and Stream.

In the fall of 1897 I was trapping and hunting on a small tributary of the Colorado river. My camp was situated on the west side of a large bluff. High up on this bluff was a large flat rock about 80 or 50 feet square. The face of the rock looked as smooth as if it had been dressed by the hand of man. On bright days the sun shone on the rock from a little after 12 o'clock until 3:30 in the evening. Exactly at 1:15 o'clock a shadow would make its appearance on this rock exactly like that of a hunter dressed in the garb usually worn by hunters of early times—fringed hunting shirt, cap, leggings, shot pouch and gun. The shadow appeared to be nearly eight or nine feet high; and it was so plain that it was hard to believe it was not painted by the hand of some skillful artist. Now the strange part of this apparition was that so far as I could discover there was no object on the sunward side of the bluff to cause the appearance. Who can give an explanation of this strange phenomenon?

TRAVEL IS LIGHT.

Few People Leaving for the Northern Gold Fields, Owing to Bad Trails.

The departure of the steamer Tees for the North last evening was not marked by any particular exodus of passengers, although the steamer carried a fair load of freight. The people are setting out now for the Northern gold fields either in Atlin or the Klondike country, and traffic is expected to continue light until Northern fresh water navigation opens. The Tees, as usual, will call at Vancouver, and will there add to passenger and freight lists. Her Victoria passengers included: Mr. and Mrs. McLeod, Mrs. Spencer, Colonel Reichenbach, and Messrs. Barrett, Hornsby, Pye and Knowles.

The steamer Alpha, which was also to have sailed for Northern ports last evening, has been detained in port, and will not leave before Friday night.

ESTABLISHED A RECORD.

Gun Squads of No. 1 Company, Second Battalion, at the Head of the List.

The gun squads of No. 1 Company, Second battalion, New Westminster, in the recent inspection established a new record for Canada, they making 78.5 per cent. The marks obtained by the three companies of the second battalion were:

No. 1 Company—C. M. S. Corbett, 10; Sergt. Webber, 10; Corp. Sloan, 10; Corp. Wilson, 9.5; Sergt. Sharpe, 10; Sergt. Gamon, 10; Corp. Corbould, 10; Sergt. Cunningham, 9; total, 78.5.

No. 2 Company—Sergt. Foster, 10; Sergt. Brown, T. S., 9.5; Corp. Miles, 10; Corp. Green, 9; Corp. Goad, 10; Sergt. Brown, R. T., 9.5; Corp. Sperring, 10; Sergt. Marrion, 9.5; total, 77.5.

No. 3 Company—Sergt. Ballard, A. M., 9; Corp. Ballard, F. L., 9.5; Corp. Ferris, 9.5; Sergt. Jervis, 10; Sergt. Worsnop, 9; Sergt. Kendall, 9.5; Corp. Ferris, F. M., 9.5; Sergt. Moscrop, 9.5; total, 75.5.

The results of the First battalion inspection, Victoria, which has already been published, were: No. 1 Company, 71; No. 2, 54; and No. 3, 76.5, a total of 210.5, as against 231.5 made by the Mainland battalion.

GRAIN HANDLERS' STRIKE.

Buffalo, May 10.—There is practically no change in the grain shovellers' strike situation. Conferences are still being held, but there are no signs of giving way by either side.

Buried With Sailor's Rites.

Service for Dead Held Aboard Schooner Favorite at Sea.

First of Season's Packed Spring Salmon Arrives on Boscowitz.

A sad piece of news was received from the West Coast by the return of the steamer Willapa yesterday afternoon. It is of the death of Alexander Rippon, from an attack of heart disease, upwards of seven or eight days ago. The deceased at the time of his death was mate on the sealing schooner Favourite, which vessel was reported by the Willapa at Ucluelet with flag at half-mast. The death took place far out at sea, and the remains were consigned to the sea with the usual solemn ceremony last Friday. Deceased has for many years been identified with the sealing industry of this port, and his demise will be greatly regretted. The Favourite's catch was 271 skins. Only one other schooner is reported by the just returned steamer, and she is the Dora Sieward, which had a catch of 271 skins. They were brought to Victoria on the Willapa. The passengers to arrive were: A. D. McQueen, L. Kirpatrick, J. J. Baird, R. Jackson, D. D. Munroe, M. Sullivan and Captains Jacobsen, Campbell and Myers. The three sealing captains were down the coast to secure Indian hunters for cruises to the Bering Sea, and have been successful in getting their men. Captain Jacobson engaged his at Dodge's Cove, and the other two at San Juan and Nitinat.

NANAIMO-ALBERNI RAILWAY.

Will Serve a Highly Mineralized Section—Purpose of the Cowichan Road.

From the Nanaimo Free Press.

In discussing the Victoria-Dunsmuir proposals to connect Vancouver and Victoria by a ferry and train service not to exceed three hours from terminus to terminus, the Nestor of British Columbia journalism—the Colonist—has fallen into an error by confounding the Cowichan Lumber railway with the Nanaimo-Alberni railway, the construction of the latter having been formally commenced on Saturday morning, when Secretary Leighton—our local Van Horne—drove the first spike. The Nanaimo-Alberni railway project is in no way, at least at present, connected either with the fast ferry proposal or the suggestion that the Canadian Pacific railway is seeking by means of the Cowichan railway company's charter to reach a port on the west coast of this island. The Nanaimo-Alberni railway company is composed exclusively of citizens of Nanaimo, who in 1897 obtained a railway charter from the provincial legislative assembly, for the purpose of constructing a narrow gauge railway from Nanaimo, via the Nanaimo lakes, to the West Coast, the route to be travelled being the most highly mineralized section of Vancouver Island, and said to even rival the original prospects of the now far-famed Kootenays. Per contra, the Cowichan railway company, we believe, obtained a Dominion charter from the federal authorities, and principally for the purpose of opening up the timber resources in and contiguous to Cowichan. The object of the Nanaimo-Alberni railway promoters was mainly the exploiting of the various valuable mineral ledges positively known to be awaiting development along the route already mentioned. By this railway rapid and economical transportation would be provided between the extensive coal mines and the seaboard at Nanaimo, and the, at present, undeveloped mineral section in the interior of this island. These latent but valuable resources are awaiting the construction of either a railway or other mode of suitable transportation for their successful and profitable exploitation.

The wire trust is long drawn out.—Louisville Post.

Eight Hour Mining Law.

Inspector of Mines Instructed to Enforce It in Thirty Days.

List of Appointments and New Companies From Official Gazette.

Official notice was given in the Provincial Gazette last evening that thirty days from date the inspector of mines will enforce the eight-hour law, passed at the last session of the legislature. The act provides as follows: "No person shall be employed underground in any metalliferous mines for more than eight hours in every twenty-four."

NEW OFFICIALS.

The following appointments have been made since the last issue of the Gazette:

Thomas L. Haig of Revelstoke, to be police magistrate of that city.

James Maitland-Dougall of Duncans, to be registrar of the county court of Nanaimo, holden at Duncans.

Charles A. R. Lambly of Fairview, to be registrar of the county court of Yale, holden at Fairview.

Charles Barnes, Nanaimo, to be a member of the board of licensing commissioners for the said city.

William Manson, Jr., of Nanaimo, to be a member of the board of police commissioners of the said city.

Stephen Y. Wootton of Victoria, registrar general of titles, to be registrar of births, deaths and marriages for district No. 1.

Thomas R. Davey of Trout Lake, to be a notary public within and for the county of Kootenay.

Thomas Parker of Rossland, to be a notary public for the Mainland of British Columbia.

NEW COMPANIES.

During the week the undermentioned companies have been incorporated:

The Granby Consolidated Mining and Smelting Company, Limited, of Greenwood Camp, Yale district, capital $900,000; The Golden Strand Mining and Development Company of British Columbia, Limited, of Rossland, capital $1,000,000; the Atlin Abstract Company, Limited, of Atlin, capital $5,000; Idaho Mining Company, Limited, of Vancouver, capital $1,500,000; the Peoria Mines of Rossland, capital $150,000; The Delight Gold Mining Company, Limited, of Ymir, capital $500,000.

The extra-provincial companies registered were:

Kootenay Gold Fields Syndicate, Limited, of London, England, capital £20,000, local office Rossland, D. B. Bogle, M. E., attorney; Kootenay Railway and Navigation Company, Limited, of England, capital £500,000, local office Kaslo, George Alexander attorney; The London and British Columbia Gold Fields, Limited, of London, England, capital £200,000 local office, Nelson, J. R. Robertson attorney; Trail Creek Mining Company, Limited, of London, England, capital £120,000, local office Rossland, D. B. Bogle attorney.

MISCELLANEOUS.

An application will be made to the lieutenant governor for leave to change the name of the Victoria Shoe Company to the Patterson Shoe Company.

The shareholders of the North Star Mining Company, Limited, will meet at Vancouver on June 5 to consider the question of the disposal of the company's assets and the dissolution and disincorporation of the company.

The firm of Shallcross, Macauley & Company, composed of J. J. Shallcross, Norman D. Macauley and P. G. Shallcross, has been dissolved.

THE SPORTSMAN'S DEN.

From Forest and Stream.

How many happy hours are spent in it. It is the one room in the house in which the master feels that he is monarch of all he surveys; one into which his dog knows he is welcome to come and snooze and pursue the festive flea without fear of being chased out with a broom in the hands of an irate female. The room is not perhaps so tidy as the best spare room, nor its furniture set in unvarying geometrical positions; but it is as its owner wants it. On the walls hang pictures of hunting scenes, one or two stately stag heads, as true to life as the taxidermist skill can do; a set of wide-spreading moose horns hang over the mantel, deer horns here and there on the walls are used as racks. The floor is covered with skins of the bear, deer and wolf. A rack is well filled with shotguns of different calibers. On a shelf is loading apparatus. In another corner hang the hunting clothes. A centre-table is littered with sporting magazines. Numerous pipes lie conveniently around. A large easy chair and a pair of well-worn slippers invite to comfort.

In this room the owner always finds things just as he left them. When he comes in tired from a long tramp he can sling one rubber boot into one corner and one into the other with perfect impunity, and it is all right—he will know just where to find them. The old adage of a place for everything and everything in its place will not do for him. He is more lavish; he has a hundred places for everything; but if so female invades his retreat with a search warrant for loose real estate, it will not take him long to locate any of his things; he seems to do it by instinct. All of the servants of the household are imbued with the idea that all who enter here with dust broom or brush are like the prisoners of the Bastile and "leave all hope behind." So, by general consent, he is given that room. And ne is better off there among his idols than leaning over the pool table or setting around the hotels, giving his views of the Philippine Islands, or in some quiet room having a little game "with just enough in sight to make it interesting."

There are moments when he likes to be alone, and the den offers the opportunity. Perhaps he had been out all day after game, and returning with an empty bag, after boasting of the amount he was going to bring in. The chagrin makes him feel "that there are moments when he wants to be alone." Or while fishing his boat capsizes, and he goes overboard. Wet and plastered with mud, by taking the back way he arrives home unseen. "There are moments when he wants to be alone." Or he hears that the rivers are full of ducks; he takes his headlight and spends the night after them—and comes home in the morning cold, tired and sleepy, with not a feather to show. These are moments when he wants to be alone.

ARE YOU BILIOUS?

A sluggish liver fails to filter the bile from the blood, and when the poisonous matter goes through the body in the circulation, the whole system is tainted and deranged. This is called biliousness, and can be completely cured by Dr. A. W. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills, which act directly on the liver, making it healthy and active. One pill a dose, 25 cents a box. The cheapest medicine in the world.

THE EAST REVISITED.

New Denver Editor on His Recent Trip to Old Home in Ontario.

R. T. Lowery in New Denver Ledge.

Some years ago I wrote a few lines about visiting my old home and mother, so I will not repeat the description. It does not matter how many times a man visits his home and the scenes of his youth, the greeting is joyful, while the parting has the same kind of sadness it had upon the first day you plunged into the cold world and cut yourself loose from ties that are tender, yet the strongest in the world. No matter where we roam, how we live, or what we do, nothing can shut out while the mind remains intact the remembrance of home and a man's best friend—his mother. In the silvery West are many boys who, through carelessness, neglect to write home. They should break this habit. If they only knew how a mother appreciates a letter from a son, they might write oftener. Just a little time, some paper, and and two cents for postage will make many a glad heart. It is just a trifle, boys; but how many will take my advice?

Thirty years ago Petrolea, Ontario, was a hot town, much like western mining camps, but it has changed. It is no longer considered good form to get drunk and paint the town a deep crimson. Poker is still played in secluded places, but the limit has fallen to fifty cents, and the game is but a shadow of its former self. The town is full of fine churches, and I attended several of them. The ante, I noticed as the plate went around was from five to ten cents. There is no excuse for anyone going to hell in the East. Every possible trail to heaven is represented by earthly agents, and churches are to be found every few miles. It seems to be impossible for the wicked to keep on shift, although I was told that the footprints of Old Nick's boots were occasionally seen in some parts of the province.

Petrolea is a great town for society. Balls and parties are prevalent, and in their own way the people are as important as New York's 400.

Petrolea has its representatives in all parts of the world. In Borneo, captain Woodward has a crew of men drilling for oil. His old partner "Bill" McGarvey has made millions in Austria, Australia and many other countries are men from Petrolea pounding the rock in search of petroleum. The tools they use are nearly all manufactured by McKenzie & Joyce. In British Columbia there are many former Petroleans, most of whom are making their mark in some of the many camps in this mountainous province.

Sonyer Again On His Trial.

Indian Who It Is Alleged Attempted to Murder Mr. Jones.

Long Fight as to Whether His Statement Should Be Admitted.

For the second time, Sonyer, a Cowichan Indian, was yesterday placed on trial on the charge of attempting to murder Francis Jones, a storekeeper of Hall's Crossing, on the E. & N. railway, on December 16, 1897. The first trial took place at Nanaimo before Judge Harrison, and the prisoner was sentenced to life imprisonment. An appeal being taken to Ottawa, a new trial was granted, and later the venue was changed to Victoria.

The attempt to murder Mr. Jones was surrounded with considerable mystery, he being unable to give any description of the man who struck him, or in fact to throw any light on the case. Two tramps were arrested on suspicion, but were soon released, there being nothing to show that they were connected with it. A few days later Sonyer came to Victoria, and the fact that he spent considerable money threw suspicion on him. Upon his return to Cowichan he was placed under arrest and made a statement which the crown says practically amounted to a confession.

Very little progress was made yesterday with the case, counsel for the defense fighting against the admission of the statement alleged to have been made by the prisoner. Mr. Jones told his story. He was in the shed picking a grouse and hearing a noise in the store went there. he recovered consciousness lying on the kitchen floor. He could not tell how he was injured. Over $200 was taken from the till.

Drs. Elliott and Kirker gave evidence as to the wound inflicted on Mr. Jones, the former stating that they might have been inflicted with an axe.

Then Constable Maitland-Dougall told of the arrest of Sonyer on December 27, and Constable Murray was called to tell about the statement made by the prisoner. The whole afternoon was spent in cross-examining him as to how he secured the statement, the defence endeavoring to show that it was not a voluntary one. The witness told in Chinook the conversation he had with the prisoner before the statement was made.

The statement has not yet been admitted, the case being adjourned until this morning, to hear other witnesses as to how the statement was obtained.

Mr. Justice Martin is presiding, Mr. A. McGregor is foreman of the jury, Mr. A. L. Belyea represents the crown, and Mr. H. D. Helmcken, Q. C., and Mr. F. Higgins the prisoner.

INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY.

At the last meeting of the Society of Arts of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology on April 27th, Mr. T. B. Kinraide of the Spring Park Laboratory, Jamaica Plain, Mass., presented an unique form of induction coil of great power, invented by him. This has been especially applied to the study of discharges by the aid of photographic processes, the plate being balanced on the point of discharge in a dark room, and being developed after exposure. It reveals in a striking manner the difference that exists between the positive and the negative discharges. The apparatus was exhibited in operation, and photographic plates shown with the lantern. The figures thus produced by the electric discharge were of extraordinary beauty and size, the delicacy of detail being brought out by means of the lantern. It is thought they may be suggestive of forms useful to designers and decorators. A large and interested audience was present.

The fellow who originated "Competition is the life of trade" evidently didn't live in this age of trusts.—Plain Talk.

When all the trusts are consolidated we will be back where we were during the reign of George the Third.—Memphis Commercial Appeal.

By the irony of fate it happens that the promoters of trusts are the most extreme foes of socialism. They are preparing the way for political revolutions, or, at least, experiments, which they dread. It is a situation which may well receive the careful attention of students of current events.—Cleveland Leader.

Martin Lifts The Veil.

Tells How the Ministers Sit Silent at Meetings of Executive.

Only Mr. Cotton Spoke Up to Him on Deadman's Island Issue.

A News-Advertiser representative saw the Attorney-General last evening with reference to a reported interview with him on the Deadman's island question that appeared in an evening contemporary. In reply to the reporter's inquiry, Mr. Martin stated that he had not read the interview in question, but believed it was substantially correct.

The reporter then remarked: "In it you are reported to have stated that Mr. Cotton's telegram to Mayor Garden did not voice the opinion of the government, but only his own views."

"Yes," replied Mr. Martin; "when I left Victoria, no decision in the matter had been arrived at by the government, and it could not have met since, as Mr. Hume and other members of the executive left Victoria on Friday. I took it as Mr. Cotton's individual opinion, but since the interview I have received a telegram from the Premier, supporting Mr. Cotton's action."

"So the government had discussed the matter?"

"Yes, fully, and decided to lay the matter over. The executive met on Thursday and arrived at no decision, but postponed the matter. Mr. Cotton and I hold opposite views with reference to the island, and I claim that he had no right to send a telegram as the opinion of the government under these circumstances."

"At the meeting of the executive, if the matter was discussed, did not the members present express their views?"

"Only Mr. Cotton and myself, and our views were directly opposite. Mr. Hume expressed none, neither did the Premier."

"Were any others present, and did they not express any view?"

"The full council were present, but I do not care to discuss the views of the individual members. No government opinion was given, but the matter was postponed."

"Did not the telegrams received by Capt. Tatlow and the timber inspector purport to come from the Premier and Mr. Cotton jointly? Such being the case, would it not be reasonable to suppose that, in the telegram to the mayor, received several hours later, the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works voiced the opinion of the Premier and other members of the government in Victoria obtained earlier in the day?"

Mr. Martin replied: "I did not look at it in that way, but the Premier says he understood that the government arrived at an opinion as intimated in the telegram. I distinctly understood several members to state that the matter would be laid over. Mr. Cotton says he has the Premier with him, and intimates that that is all that is necessary to settle it, the voice of the whole council not being needed. That is where I differ with him. I cannot understand Mr. Cotton's action in this, which suggests that no others of the executive have a voice in the matter. I have a voice as well as the Premier or others; all have equal right, and the Premier is as apt to be in the minority as anyone else. I think it was entirely improper to send the telegram as from the government. Mr. Cotton practically admits this by his allegation that only the opinion of the Premier and himself is needed in the matter."

Mr. Martin was then asked whom he received his telegrams from on Monday morning, and replied: "I received notice from Victoria of the action Mr. Ludgate had taken. I had two telegrams—from the Premier and Mr. Cotton—instructing me to act for the province."

Asked if this did not show that the government was represented in Victoria, had voiced the telegrams to the mayor, Mr. Martin replied, "I did not think so," and further stated that he did not think the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works had power to act, as Mr. Cotton had, in a case of emergency, after the government had met and deliberately stood the matter over.

Upon the question again being put, however, Mr. Martin replied: "I did not look at it in that way at all, but know it now, of course."

In further conversation Mr. Martin stated that he had seen Dr. McKechnie since the executive met, but that he had expressed no opinion on the matter. The Premier and Mr. Cotton "might have seen some of the government since and obtained their views. I do not know, but if so, I am overruled." Mr. Hume was away in the Upper Country, and his return was indefinite, but otherwise the executive might meet at an early date to consider the matter. He was himself going down to Victoria to-day.

Mr. Martin did not know what steps either the Dominion or Provincial governments proposed taking, and could not tell what Mr. Ludgate intended to do, except that he had agreed not to fell any more trees on the island in the meantime. He did not quite see that the fact that the provincial government had asserted a claim to the island gave the commissioner of lands and works the authority to send the telegram to the mayor. He did not care to give his views as to the strength or otherwise of the provincial government's claim to the island. The fact that it was asserting a claim showed that it had good grounds to work on, and naturally its claim to the title was made through his own department. At the present time he was unable to say what action the government would take, and did not care to commit himself to an expression until after the executive had met again. He would like to know what the Dominion government had intended to do, and regretted that its reply, as published elsewhere, had not answered his telegram. It would be most unfortunate to have a collision between the two governments. Mr. Martin had not the slightest idea what action either government contemplated taking, or whether the matter would run on until Mr. Ludgate effected another coup, and woke them up again. He himself had no line of action in view, but was in favor of the mill, and hoped the matter would not be left too long, as Mr. Ludgate had intimated that he would not wait much longer, but would pull out and build elsewhere. He did not wish to see the industry lost to Vancouver.

Referring to his legal connection with Mr. Ludgate, the attorney general stated: "Mr. Ludgate took possession on Monday, entirely without my knowledge. I knew nothing about it whatever until I arrived in the city. Mr. Ludgate and the government both knew that directly he acted in opposition to the provincial government, I should cease to act for him and act for the government. The matter was never for a moment questioned, and there was no hesitancy or doubt about the action I should take at all. I am Mr. Ludgate's solicitor yet, but on that part of his business I cannot act for him. With the city it was different, as the city's right was practically contested by the province. Directly Mr. Ludgate's action clashed with the government, I acted for the government, and stopped the work. I am his solicitor still, and shall be, I suppose, the same as I am for many other people, and when their business clashes with the government I do not act for them."

BROKE HER MAIN-BOOM.

Seattle Fishing Brigantine Returns to the Roads in Distress.

The brigantine Blakeley, Capt. McPhee, bound from Seattle for the northern halibut fishing grounds, put into the Royal Roads last evening in distress. In going down the Straits yesterday her main boom was carried away by the strong gale blowing, and the vessel was obliged to put about for repairs. The Blakeley is a very old vessel of approximately 150 tons register, and created no small amount of uneasiness in Seattle when last year she set out with passengers and freight for St. Michael.

It is stated that upon her return from the North, Her Majesty's survey ship Egeria will commence a survey of the route for the Pacific cable. When the Egeria was commissioned it was announced that part of her work would be in connection with the cable.

Steamer Utopia arrived here from the Sound yesterday, to undergo Canadian inspection. She will take her place on the Puget Sound-Victoria route on Friday.

The Northern Pacific steamship Olympia did not call here as expected yesterday, but proceeded direct to the Orient from the Sound. The Victoria, of the same line, is due here from the Orient on the 20th, inst.

Steamer Clayoquot returned yesterday from Texada and will leave again for that busy mining town this morning.

Steamer Oscar arrived last evening with a load of hay from Ladner's Landing.

Steamer Fingal is loading 41,000 brick at Porter's wharf for Vancouver.

The steamers Cottage City and Amur are due from the North to-day.

Cottage City's Midnight Call

Special Commission With Judicial Powers at Last Heading for Atlin.

Skagway Visited by a Disastrous Fire—Quartz Finds Numerous.

The mail steamer Cottage City, Capt. Wallace, favored Victoria with a midnight call and passed on to Puget Sound a little before 1 o'clock this morning. Her news budget may be summarized under four headings, the last being of purely local interest: a rough trip and no further communication with Dawson, the waterways being now impassable with float ice, which seriously threatens the waiting steamers; rich discoveries of gold and copper ledges at Ketchican, to which point hundreds of quartz prospectors are preparing to rush as soon as the snow is out of the hills; Skagway the scene of a destructive fire, which destroyed one entire block and threatened the demolition of the entire town—and Hon. J. Fred. Hume informs the people of Atlin, through Mr. W. Norman Rant, that he will be with them to assist in the termination of their difficulties about the end of this month, accompanying a select commission of inquiry, by which (invested with the powers of a court) all differences as to the ownership of claims or realty will be adjusted.

This latter information, reported by Mr. Rant to the Alaskan, with the news that the Minister of Mines had further been pleased to extend the opening of the Atlin mining season from the 1st June to the 1st July, has furnished the text of much self-congratulation among the Atlin mine owners.

The latest news from Atlin City, where the residents are still waiting in patience for the town lots sale, the opening of the creeks and the adjudication of their disputes, appears to be that of the suicide of James Freeman—formerly of San Francisco and then of Skagway. Mrs. Freeman had been in business at Atlin City, and was followed there by her husband, whose ambition seems to have been to live a life of luxury upon the earnings of his wife. She refused to meet his demands for money, and he shot himself.

The big Skagway fire occurred on the night of May 3, a total loss of upwards of $30,000 being involved through the destruction of one entire block. B. W. Mayer, the Brown Shoe Co., and W. L. Green are among the heaviest individual losers. The fire stopped almost "of its own accord," just before the destruction of the entire town appeared to be inevitable.

Of the late mining news, one feature is the discovery of rich gold and copper ledges, and a third carrying these two metals in conjunction at Ketchican, 200 miles down the coast from Skagway, and not so very far from Wrangel. A rush of quartz miners in this direction is looked for just as soon as the snow is off the hills. Other good quartz finds are spoken of, at Chilkat, and at a point twenty miles up the Stikine, where the claim owners intend developing their property during the approaching summer. Indeed the people of the Middle North are beginning to realize the wisdom of the old miners' saying that the district has more to hope for as a quartz than as a placer region—although new diggings are daily claiming attention. The very latest is on Fallon Creek, along the Fuatail trail. Dr. Scharschmidt of Log Cabin being one of those most interested in Quinn City, as the discovery point of the new camp has been called.

The travel on the upper Yukon now awaits the opening of navigation.

The Chicago Tribune says that trusts will be the issue of 1900 and that the Republican party must be prepared to take a stand one side or the other. The Tribune is making a strong fight against these combines.—Galesburg Republican-Register.

The Officers Duly Elected.

Last Day's Session of the Grand Lodge Knights of Pythias.

Delegates Tendered a Banquet by the Members of Victoria Lodges.

The Grand Lodge, K. of P., completed their business session yesterday, routine business and the election of officers occupying the attention of the delegates during the morning. The officers elected were:

Supreme representative, H. J. Anstie, Granville Lodge, No. 7, Vancouver.

G. C., W. D. Mearns, Rathbone Lodge, No. 7, Vancouver.

G. V. C., J. W. Graham, Rossland Lodge, No. 21, Rossland.

G. Prelate, J. L. Brown, Primrose, No. 20, Kamloops.

G. K. of R. and S., Emil Pferdner, Far West, No. 1, Victoria.

G. M. of Ex., E. P. Nathan, Victoria Lodge, No. 17, Victoria.

G. M. at A., N. Binns, Trail Lodge, No. 23, Trail.

G. I. G., J. D. Griffiths, Wellington Lodge, No. 2, Wellington.

G. O. G., A. Ferguson, Granite Lodge, No. 16, New Westminster.

It was decided to hold the next meeting of the Grand Lodge at Rossland on May 10, 1900.

On motion the True Knight, a Pythian paper published in Vancouver, was declared the official organ of the order in British Columbia.

Votes of thanks were tendered the Colonist, Times and Globe for their reports of the proceedings; to Far West Lodge, No. 1, and Victoria Lodge, No. 17, for the use of Pythian Castle hall, and to the reception committee for their many acts of courtesy to the visiting members.

Supreme Representatives H. J. Anstie and T. Ackerman exemplified the secret work of the order, which proved most instructive, and the session was brought to a close with the installation of the newly elected officers by C. L. Behnsen, P. S. R., and H. J. Anstie, S. R.

Last evening the visiting knights were the guests of the two Victoria lodges at a banquet held in Pythian hall. Mr. A. R. Milne, C.M.G., the first chancellor of Far West Lodge, occupied the chair; on his right was Mayor Redfern, and on his left United States Consul Smith. Close on a hundred knights occupied seats at the tables, which had been very prettily decorated with palms and flowers by Caterer Leeson, of the Hotel Victoria. Having gone through the bill of fare, the chairman proposed the toast to the Queen, which was responded to by the whole company singing the national anthem. Then followed "The President of the United States," to which Consul Smith replied with an eloquent speech. Supreme Representatives Anstie and Ackerman replied for the Supreme Lodge; Grand Chancellor Mearns for the Grand Lodge; Mayor Redfern for the Mayor and Council; E. E. Leeson for sister societies; and representatives of the Colonist, Times and Globe for the press. The toast list was varied with songs by the Big Four and Messrs. Kinnaird, Leeson, Leroy, Hadwen and others. The evening was a most enjoyable one in every respect, the visitors going home voting their Victoria brethren jolly good fellows.

COMRADES.

From Forest and Stream.

When one gets to the last quarter of his journey he is apt to look backward more than forward, for the further end of the path, half veiled in the misty glow of sunset, is pleasanter to look upon than the untrodden, uncertain path that lies before him. Seen through it the wayside woods bloom with rare flowers, the roughness of the path is smoothed whereon the companions of youth walked glorified as in a halo. Where are they? Some of these are but the shadow? Some are still travelling divergent paths, some asleep in the green vista by the wayside where their journey ended, the green roofs dotting the way far back into the filmy perspective. But a little way behind, his weary journey ended, sleeps one who was always my chosen companion in those happy days of youth, when the world was fair around us, the sky was blue above, and there was no thought for the morrow but that it would dawn as brightly and be as full of sunshine. It is a long lesson to learn that the present is always the best, and happy are we in being such slow learners; so hopeful in our ignorance, when it were folly to be wise. We were comrades of rod and gun—the same fire of pine roots lighted our nightly fishing; when one went shooting the other went always, and all the livelong sunny April day we loafed on the level margin of the Slag, potting pickerel and muskrat.

I well remember one such day, a Sunday be is whispered, when all loafers beside us were abroad. How warm the sun shone, how soft the April air, breeding laziness in all things save the pulse of nature. Treefuls of blackbirds dribbled down their medley of harsh and liquid notes, the frogs purred in endless monotony, rows of little painted turtles basked on every slanted log, wild ducks swam safely in the distant midstream, from some far sequestered cove came the watery booming of a bittern, the spawning pickerel swam lazily in the sun-steeped shallows of the marsh, and these we sought with eyes intent and stealthy step and guns at ready. With like purpose, over against us on the Slag's further shore stalked the grim old Drum Major, an attache of the Champlain Arsenal, where he had borrowed a heavy Colt's revolver, then a novel arm. The Major was followed by his nephew John, a tall, lank youth, very proud to be in the company of so distinguished an arms-bearer. Whenever they met other fish-hunters the strange weapon was certain to attract attention, and then followed examinations and question, after which Jack would ask: "How much did that ere pistil cost, Uncle?" and the Major would answer with solemn impressiveness: "Paw-ty dollars!" Then came an awed silence, until another party was met, when another inspection was made, and Jack would ask, as if for the first instead of the twentieth time: "How much did you say that ere pistil cost, Uncle?" "Paw-ty dollars!" Long after they had passed out of our sight we heard again and again that solemn response echoed along the wooded shore: "Paw-ty dollars!"

INSTINCT.

From Forest and Stream.

During my fourteen years of hermit life I have run across many incidents that prove that wild animals comprehend the meaning of death. Two years ago I found the nest of a "wild" domestic cat in an old stone wall. There were three live kittens and one dead one. I left the dead kitten as an experiment. Whenever I had found a nest before this, a visit a few hours later would find the nest deserted, the kittens removed to some secret spot. When I again visited the nest in question it was deserted save for the dead kitten. If that cat had no conception of death she would have placed the dead kitten beyond my reach, and for the same reason that caused her to remove the live kittens.