

PROVINCIAL NEWS.

Vancouverites Discussing the Wisdom of Giving the C. P. R. Exemption From Taxes.

Happenings at Fairview, Trail, Nelson, New Westminster and Elsewhere.

Vancouver, Oct. 28.—C. N. Davidson returned yesterday from Fairview where he reports there is great activity. The weather is mild, and but little snow has been on the hills. Good progress has been made on the construction of the Tin Horn mill, and if nothing unforeseen happens it will be in operation by the middle of next week. Mr. Davidson brings the news that the Winchester company, which recently purchased the Stenwinder claim, were immediately taken up. On the Oro Fino group work is progressing satisfactorily, and Mr. Davidson brought down a number of rich samples from the Independence claim, one of this group, which he will have assayed. The Smuggler company is also working away, while the Strathearn company intend to recommence operations and will probably put up a new mill. On the townsite a large amount of building is going on, the three sawmills being taxed to their utmost capacity. The new hotel will probably be opened in a few months, or less, the furniture being now on the road.

Mr. Lewis, of the Pacific Coast Steamship Company, who do a comparatively large trade with Vancouver, said to a reporter to-day that the C. P. R. authorities are making a mistake in extending 500 feet eastward without delay. Sheds will be built and the space between the office and freight sheds on both sides filled in to accommodate freight in transit.

Mr. Lewis said this was good news to the Pacific Coast Steamship Company, who had been making vigorous protests lately against having to pay dock freight on the C. P. R. wharves. He said that the C. P. R. wharves are to be extended 500 feet eastward without delay. Sheds will be built and the space between the office and freight sheds on both sides filled in to accommodate freight in transit.

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and Revelstoke. The Rev. F. Yolland has taken a house in this city and will remove his family here the latter end of the week. He will take charge of the church from the beginning of next month.

Saturday is the last day on which the rebate of 10 per cent. on the current year's taxes will be allowed. Commencing on November 1st, and lasting to the end of the month, the rebate allowed will be 5 per cent.

A couple of interesting liquor cases were heard before Mr. Kelly, S. M., at Chilliwack, at the end of last week. The first was against W. H. Cavley, who was charged with illegally selling liquor. The informant was W. I. Abbott, whose testimony was unimpeached and consequently the case was dismissed. The second was against Abbott, the informant, who was convicted of having sold liquor at the fair. He was fined \$110 and costs \$100 for a license fee and \$10 for the fine.

Mr. Aulay Morrison, M. P., returned yesterday from Nelson, where he had been attending the session. Mr. Morrison will leave early next week for Vernon, having been transferred to that branch of the Bank of Montreal. Mr. Dewdney, a young nephew of the late Governor Dewdney, will enter the bank's service as a member of the staff in this city.

Owing to the fact that there are no cases to come before the grand and petit juries, the grand jury will not be held in this city this year. Such an event has not happened for many years past, and it is doubtful if it has ever happened before in this city. It speaks well for the community at large as well as for our dispensers of justice and our officers who maintain the laws of the land. The district and city of New Westminster should feel proud of having such a clear record, one that can compare with any other part of the world, and one that speaks for itself proving that this part of British Columbia and the Dominion of Canada contains one of the most law-abiding communities.

On Tuesday afternoon, the 2nd November, the B. O. Fruit Exchange will hold their regular quarterly meeting. At this meeting checks will be issued for all freight reports to September 30th. The Lower Fraser Fruit Union will hold their quarterly meeting on the same evening at 7:30 o'clock.

A coincidence in the vital statistics for this month is the fact that the births and deaths are exactly the same number, viz: 12, and the number of marriages is only one less.

The Chinaman who was found dead in a shack on Friday, now transpired, accumulated to a large dose of laudanum which he had taken the previous evening. He was discovered soon after he had taken the medicine and a measure was immediately taken to check the effect of the drug, although the stomach pump brought up a large quantity. On Friday evening the remains were interred in the Chinese cemetery.

Sir Charles Tupper will be banquetted here at the Gulcher on Monday, November 8th.

NELSON.

Nelson, Oct. 28.—Mr. Justice Walkem to-day granted the application for an injunction prayed for by J. Davies, of the Nelson Land and Improvement Company, against the city of Nelson, to restrain the latter from proceeding with the construction of a flume line and extension on the company's property. It appears that the city, without legal notice, as provided in the expropriation clause, entered into the possession of the land and started the construction of the water flume. Mr. Davies waited on the council some time ago, and told the members what he would part with the land for. The council told him that they did not know at that time how many lots would be required, and he refused to agree. Mr. Davies waited on the council some time ago, and told the members what he would part with the land for. The council told him that they did not know at that time how many lots would be required, and he refused to agree.

At yesterday's meeting of the city council Mayor Houston, after stating that Mr. Justice Walkem had enjoined the city from trespassing upon Mr. Joshua Davies' land, added some very uncomplimentary remarks about Mr. Davies and British Columbia courts generally. He said that if British Columbia justices were a fair sample of those throughout Canada, he thought that the judges of the United States would compare more than favorably with them. In reply to a look on started interruption from the reporters' desk, he added that he made the statement for publication.

Nelson, Oct. 29.—The new telephone line between Nelson and Rossland is fifty miles and the construction of the line gives Nelson a direct telephone communication with Spokane, a distance by wire of about 200 miles. The wire to Spokane is in fairly good condition and conversation was easily carried on. The line now connects with Spokane, Rossland, Trail, Deer Park, Clayton, Loom Lake, Springdale, Shewat, Adair, Colville, Meyer's Falls, Kettle Falls, Marcus, Rossburg, Marble and Northport. It is stated by men who are supposed to be authorities on the matter that the line between Nelson and Rossland is the finest in British Columbia. It is a metallic circuit and should therefore be established with the other without seriously interfering with any business that might be going on.

Charles A. Hosmer, of Montreal, general manager of the Canadian Pacific Telegraph Company, is in the city on a tour of inspection. His company will improve the service and he will soon have a duplicate line via the Slokan river and by way running to Nelson. He says the company will construct a line with three wires along the Crow's Nest Pass railway to Nelson. Two of the three wires will be extra heavy, and the third will be a single wire. The line is progressing and it will be completed in December, 1898.

J. H. Sulman, of Montreal, of the same company, is in the city on a tour of inspection. He says the Canadian Pacific is going to build a line along the Crow's Nest Pass railway to Nelson, and if they are not erected by a private enterprise the corporation owns some of the directors.

NEW WESTMINSTER.

The Rev. C. T. Easton, rector of St. Barnabas church, is leaving here to take charge of the parish at Nelson, and will be succeeded at St. Barnabas church by Rev. Field Yolland, late of Vancouver.

in it will construct them themselves. He admits that Robson and Sloan crossing have been under consideration as possible smelter sites, and in fact, are still under consideration. He states that he has received no definite information as to the location of a smelter and that he is not at liberty to make any statements in regard to recommendations he has made in the matter. Should the company or its directors erect a smelter it will run on custom ores, as the company does not intend to go into the mining business. It is the desire of the company to encourage smelting, and incidentally to create business for itself.

There is a large number of mining experts in town. The outlook is for an increased force of the mill and experts are closely looking into the Tond Mountain mines. Of all the experts who have been here during the past month there was only one who spoke adversely of the district.

Mr. Allan D. Seymour will leave early next week for Vernon, having been transferred to that branch of the Bank of Montreal. Mr. Dewdney, a young nephew of the late Governor Dewdney, will enter the bank's service as a member of the staff in this city.

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THE VICTORIA TIMES, TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 1897.

out a large quantity of produce.—Vernon News.

FAIRVIEW.

A large force of men are at work building a road from the Joe Dandy mine to the river where their dam is located.

The Tin Horn mill is completed and will be running in a few days. Needless to say, we are all anxiously waiting to hear the music of the dropping stamps.

We understand that the mine will have to go out of business pretty soon, as the double eagle, already coined, is being found on the Stenwinder. This is the oldest property in the camp and some say the best, and we are glad to see it receiving recognition.

The strike in the Smuggler is better and bigger than anything expected. They are into the vein 8 feet and have not got through it yet. Of course, there are streaks which will go \$1,000 to the ton, but the whole vein will average better than \$8 per ton, which is quite good enough for the Smuggler, an ordinary property. They will have a mill of their own soon.

A gentleman whose name we cannot learn, from Chilliwack, is here with the intention of starting a drug store. It will fill a long felt want, as we are getting quite a few ladies here now, and who of course need cosmetics, etc.—Correspondence Midway Advance.

Vernon News. S. Somerville is up from Fairview, on his way to his new home, where he is at present located in the employ of Thomas Elliott. He leaves again for the south on Friday. Mr. Somerville is very emphatic in his opinion that Fairview will soon occupy a foremost position among the mining camps of the province, and believes that within a few months very rapid development work will take place in some of the known claims. The Tin Horn stamp mill is now all but completed, and will be at work crushing ore next week. Business is brisk in the camp, and everything points to a very busy and successful winter.

BELLA COOLA.

Bella Cooola, Oct. 20.—J. W. Carlyle and Thomas Allan, who have been prospecting for minerals here this summer, leave for Victoria to-day to lay the results of their discoveries before parties interested. They are pleased to think they have made good finds, but of course they have yet to prove it.

The trail towards Chiloquin through this valley, to which the government appropriated \$500, has been completed to the extent that pack horses and cattle can be driven over it, and it has already begun to pay good use. Mr. A. Christensen was over the trail by Chiloquin and brought a drove of cows, which he brought back to the valley. The trail was sold to the settlers at a very reasonable price, and we need not any longer buy cattle from the cities below at a much greater expense and risk.

Several of the settlers from Chiloquin have been down and bought their winter supplies, which pleases the storekeepers here very much, and they are looking for an increase in business in the future.

Chiloquin is a grand country, and the investment the government of British Columbia can make is to open up that country by a road, and the best route is undoubtedly through the Bella Cooola valley. The settlers of Bella Cooola hope that it will not be long before the work, now so well under way, to get a road through the settlement and across the divide, will be helped along.

It is a well-known fact that thousands upon thousands of acres of the best land in British Columbia lie idle right at the threshold of the best of markets only for the want of a road to open it up. A road can be built at a tolerably small expense, as the men report that have just been through with the trail work. This is corroborated by Mr. B. Franklin, a settler at Tada Lake. Mr. Franklin reports very favorably from his country and says chances are many and good for prospective people who will go in and settle. He says that the attention of both government and private individuals be directed towards developing that country.

VERNON.

The news office was completely burned out on Thursday afternoon. All of the employees were out when the fire started, and when it was discovered it was burning through the windows and into the large new block on Friday. The loss on plant and stock will be \$5,000; insurance in the Royal company \$3,000. The building was owned by the townsite company, and the loss was about \$10,000. It is a serious blow to the Wulfsberg & Bewick's block, which was only about 20 feet from the News building, caught fire several times, but the bridge, with the citizens, managed with the fire engine to quench the blaze. The fire engine was in charge made her damage to the Wulfsberg & Bewick's block will be about \$200. It is covered by insurance.

The fall season has been an exceptionally favorable one for farmers, and a large amount of grain and seedling has already been accomplished. Extensive repairs and alterations will be at once instituted in connection with the Vernon flour mill. Not only will the mill be increased to an 80-barrel mill, but several improvements will be made in the machinery, more modern appliances being put in. When alterations are completed this mill will be equipped in a manner unsurpassed by any of the mills in the province.

The little steamer Greenwood City, which was built at Okanagan Landing for the purpose of navigating Okanagan river and Dog lake, was successfully launched yesterday afternoon, and on Saturday, with Capt. Cuming in charge, made her initial trip down to Okanagan Falls. She made the downward passage all right, but we hear that she met with unexpected difficulties in breasting the force of the current of the Okanagan river on her upward passage and has not yet returned to Penticton.

Robt. Wood, of Greenwood City, is in town, and seems to entertain the most optimistic views regarding the future of the Boundary River district. Everyone acquainted with the facts will agree with him that this section is bound to assume a very prominent position among the mining districts of the province as soon as railway communication is afforded it; and it now looks as if a railway from Penticton to the Columbia is fairly in sight; in fact there seems no reasonable room for doubt that such a road will be commenced next spring, if not sooner.

One has only to take notice of the large quantities of hay, vegetables and fruit which almost daily leave this station for various Kootenay mining towns, to be convinced that our farmers have been very successful in securing a profitable market in these places for their produce. Three years ago this trade was practically unknown, or, at least, of an experimental nature. Every season since has seen steadily increased until this year there was probably at least four times as much produce of this nature exported than during any previous year in our history. This is largely due to the current of the Okanagan river, the Kelowna Shippers' Union, and kindred associations, which have worked up a flourishing trade with the mining camps. A large proportion of the produce of the Boundary River district, Kelowna, through the Colquhoun & Co. and through the W. Murphy, French Bros., and other farmers in this section, are large shippers, while W. R. McEwen, Hutchison Bros., and W. T. Shafford also send

good ship round the Horn and reached British Columbia. He travelled through Osoyoos lake and secured his piece of land. Had he arrived a few years later he would have been disappointed. Then an accurate and detailed history of the province is written in all probability a page will be devoted to the indignation protests made when it was found that a few acres at the head of Osoyoos Lake had become the property of an expatriated German. The land should have been reserved for Judge Haines' cattle.

The tired traveller who reaches Kruger's thanks his stars that the host got there before the land grabber. It is like an oasis in the desert. The "I am pleased to see you," and "my wife and I were just talking about you," followed by a meal that would satisfy an epicure, would all be missing if Kruger hadn't come to Osoyoos Lake forty years ago. Instead of a comfortable home, a general host, and the best of fare, the traveller would be greeted by an insolent Northhorn who would question his right to gaze upon the beauties of Osoyoos Lake and demand a price for it.

This is a wonderful province and its land laws are still more wonderful.—Boundary Creek Times.

COMMUNICATIONS.

A PRETTY STATE OF AFFAIRS.

To the Editor: I desire, with your permission, through the medium of your journal to call the attention of the public to certain matters in connection with the legal profession in this province. I have been induced to take this step on account of a personal grievance of mine, yet it is not for the purpose of airing that grievance, but rather of endeavoring if possible to bring about a change in the laws which render such things possible.

There has been much discussion by publicists with regard to the advisability of the laws which limit the practice of certain professions to those persons who attain prescribed qualifications. I am myself a believer in the policy of law of that nature. I have never, however, seen it suggested by any writer on this subject that these laws should be passed for the protection of the different individuals practising the different professions. The officers of the law, who are, or can be, defended, is the protection given to the public at large.

In this province, however, it would appear that so far as the legal profession is concerned it is the view of the government that the public interest is served by the passing of laws which are passed and has to be carried out, not for the purpose of protecting the public, but for the purpose of constituting the legal profession into a protected ring.

The primary sanction provided for the enforcement of such laws is a prosecution before a justice of the peace with the penalty of a fine in case of conviction. In British Columbia the medical, dental and surveying professions have to be satisfied with that, and in the case of the legal profession there is provided an additional remedy and a very severe one at that. I feel quite certain in asserting that in no part of the world can any similar law be found. In this province an offence against the Legal Professions Act is declared to be contempt of court and the maximum punishment for that offence is imprisonment for life.

Not only is it an offence for an attorney-at-law to represent himself as a qualified solicitor or barrister of this province, but it is also an offence against the act for a solicitor or barrister of any other province to advertise or act as such in this province, although such representations may be perfectly true. It follows then that if Mr. Edward Blake, or Mr. Dalton McCarthy, or any other eminent eastern lawyer, should happen to be within the confines of this province and should undertake to advise one and charge a fee for it, he would be liable to be summoned before the supreme court and sent to jail for the remainder of his natural life.