

## PROSPERITY IN THE WEST

J. H. Brock, managing director of the Great West Life Insurance company, was among the arrivals from the East on Monday evening, says the Victoria Colonist. Mr. Brock is a frequent visitor to the Coast, the rapid expansion of the business of his company necessitating his visiting the different agencies from Prince Edward Island to Vancouver Island, two or three times a year. Mr. Brock has opportunities of judging the conditions of trade and general progress of the Dominion that are afforded to very few men, and it is gratifying to learn from him that, from the Atlantic to the Pacific, the country is in a very prosperous condition. This applies especially to the West, the satisfactory progress of the East being only a result of the conditions existing west of the Great Lakes. The phenomenal grain crop of this year, which has attracted the attention of the commercial world to Manitoba and the Territories has had the immediate effect of directing a greatly increased stream of immigration from the East and the United States and in consequence the sales of farming lands in Manitoba and the Territories exceed those of former years to a wonderful extent. The C. P. R., the Hudson's Bay company, the Government and private holders of farm lands report a "boom," such as had not occurred in many years, and the bulk of the new settlers who are pouring into the prairie country are men of means and experience, the very best class of new-comers whose knowledge of the plains renders their success a foregone conclusion.

Regarding British Columbia, Mr. Brock expresses the opinion that never before in her history has the province been more prosperous. He has read a great deal about the political turmoil in which the country is involved, but from his personal observation he is inclined to the opinion that the effect of this on mining and general business is greatly exaggerated. All through the Kootenays and Boundary districts he found the mining industry advancing by leaps and bounds. The development is, he says, simply inconceivable to the ordinary observer. There are mines in which many millions of tons of ore are blocked out, sufficient to keep a number of large smelters going night and day for many years, and as yet only the surface of these vast deposits has been disturbed by human industry. The Granby smelter is obliged to double its capacity and of the two large smelters at Greenwood one is being duplicated and there is serious talk of quadrupling the capacities of both within the next 12 months. The people of the Boundary country have come to a realization of the possibilities surrounding them, they have got down to business and all that money, time and energy can do is being devoted to the development of the country.

Le Roi mine is proving to be a greater property than ever was anticipated. Six hundred men are now employed on the property and, despite the labor troubles, there is more development being accomplished than ever before. The company is at no loss for miners and laborers, in fact there are more men seeking employment than they can find places for. The low grade ores at the interior are more than making up in quantity for their somewhat inferior quality and with the prevailing price of copper and the economical methods of treatment, afforded by the development of the neighboring Crow's Nest coal fields, there can be no question as to the future of the mining industry.

Mr. Brock said the fame of the Mount Sicker district was being spread in the East and if he could possibly spare the time he would visit the mines before returning to Winnipeg, so as to be in a position to verify the glowing accounts he had heard of them.

While he regards mining as the backbone of British Columbia industry, Mr. Brock was pleased to observe during his trip that business in all lines was satisfactory. There were no inflated notions, no booming, but a steady, legitimate growth and a sense of confidence and security everywhere manifest, which was highly gratifying.

Concerning the business of the Great West Life, which owes its existence and great success mainly to his individual effort, Mr. Brock was inclined to be reticent, saying that he was a believer in legitimate advancement, not the kind which intrudes itself in the newspaper interview. The published results of the company's business and the report of the directors of insurance should be sufficient to convince the public of the steady progress and stability of the company, while the reports of its agents throughout the Dominion were entirely satisfactory to the shareholders and policy holders.

### MURDER IN MANITOBA.

A Farm Laborer Deliberately Shot by a Bandit.

CARTWRIGHT, Man., Nov. 26.—About dark last night W. Bourness, a man, J. Asling, were sitting down to supper when a man called and asked to be directed to Mr. Wright's place. Asling crossed the boundary. Mr. Bourness went out a few rods with him to show him the way, when the stranger pulled out a revolver and said: "You and your mother have plenty of money in this house and I must have it or I will kill you and burn the buildings." He followed Bourness into the house with a pistol leveled at him. As he came to the door threatening to shoot, Asling the murderer fired. The explosion put the light and Bourness dodged to the side, when a shot passed over his head. Asling was shot through the

heart, the bullet passing through the stair door, while the bullet fired at Bourness passed over his head through a picture and lodged in the wall. The murderer ran out of the house. Mrs. Bourness, the aged mother of Bourness, fainted as a result of the shock. Bourness ascertained that Asling was dead and then carried his fainting mother to a distance of half a mile or more to John Palmers, a neighbor. The word was spread around and John Robertson, another neighbor, brought the information to town and laid information with Magistrate Laughlin. Provincial Policemen Gimby and Dr. Davidson were at once despatched to the spot, accompanied by a number of citizens. After a preliminary investigation and finding Asling quite dead they returned to town and the intelligence was at once wired to the chief of the provincial police. Special constables were despatched from here to neighboring points on the American side and every step was being taken to effect a capture. The murderer is of medium height and is solid and active, either a Frenchman or half-breed, with dark mustache and features, and was riding a white horse. Asling was an inoffensive man of about forty years of age, and a bachelor.

### THE CANADA NORTHERN.

By far the most important piece of railway news which has come to the province of British Columbia in a long time is that from Montreal which details the arrangements made by Messrs. Mackenzie & Mann for extending their Canadian Northern road to the Pacific coast. Briefly told, the scheme as originally planned was to build the line through the Yellow Head pass and thence by way of Quesnel to the head of Kitimat Arm, a harbor just south of the Skeena river. This plan, it appears from the Montreal dispatch, has been altered so that the line, instead of going northwest from Quesnel, will come southwest to a point at the head of Bute Inlet, an arm of the sea which runs inland some forty odd miles from the Gulf of Georgia, its entrance being almost opposite Valdez Island, or about 130 miles northwest of Vancouver city. From this point at the head of Bute Inlet connection would be made with a point on Vancouver Island, near Seymour Narrows, by a ferry which presumably would be designed to carry freight and passenger cars. The E. & N. railway is to be extended from Wellington to Seymour narrows, and thus Victoria would become the terminal of Canada's second transcontinental line. The dispatch states definitely enough that the negotiations between Hon. Mr. Wells, for the British Columbia government, and Messrs. Mackenzie & Mann have been brought to a successful conclusion, and that negotiations for the immediate construction of the line from Bute Inlet to Quesnel, beginning at the coast, are now pending. It is an open secret that for many years it has been the dream of William Mackenzie and D. D. Mann to make their railway system a transcontinental one. This has been no dream in the ordinary sense, for the two men are not dreamers, but hard-headed workers who do not know the meaning of defeat. The possibility of connecting Hudson's Bay and the Pacific ocean by rail has ever been before them, while the shortening of the transcontinental haul by rail with consequent taking advantage of the smaller northern cities has appeared to them the solution of the problem of quick transit between China and Britain. While the story from Montreal seems to bear the imprint of truth on its face, it seems hardly possible that the projectors of the road would desert their original plan to reach Kitimat arm without very serious consideration. Should Victoria be taken as the terminal point, it would mean a sea trip of nearly six meridians further east for ships from China, while freight would then have to be hauled about a hundred miles back west, again in traversing the road up Vancouver Island—Vancouver Province.

### MINING TUNNELS.

The longest mining tunnels projected and in the course of actual construction are very largely in Colorado. These are being run to crosscut single mountain ranges containing a large number of ore-bearing ledges. These ledges are being intersected at depths far below what would be economically profitable by shaft mining. In addition to the great depth of backs over the floor level that these tunnels open, they can, while these upper ore bodies are more or less worked out, be utilized as a surface from which to sink to depths beneath. The tunnels and the open workings above offer exceptional advantages for this sort of deep mining. By provision thereof, the water that flows into the overhead workings can be collected there and conducted down to the tunnel level in pipes under pressure, which can there be utilized for power development. Practically, this costs the minimum in the way of investment, and, being possible of use direct, can provide the maximum of effective work from the theoretical efficiency. It is safe to say that 70 per cent of the theoretical power power can be had in the tunnel level in pipes under pressure. Under average conditions, more water will enter the 100-foot depth of workings above the tunnel levels than below. The power, then, that can be developed from the inflowing water above will perform the service of lifting of the lesser quantity of water coming in workings below to a depth very nearly, if not entirely, equal to the feet of head of the power water. With these practical working conditions, the tunnel exploitation of ore deposits in Colorado means cheap deep mining to depths that are unthinkable with dependence solely on shafts from the surface. The deep mining so effected may not be as spectacular as the deep shaft mining projected in the Transvaal, but it has the more satisfying quality of a safer and larger profit margin.

### WORK TOMORROW.

The unwatering of the Centre Star mine is practically completed, and it is understood that the first complement of miners will go to work tomorrow morning.

W. Hart-McHarg left on a business trip to Greenwood.

## THE NEW CONTINGENT IN THE POSTOFFICE

REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE ENLISTMENT OF MEN FOR SERVICE. RECRUITING AT ROSSLAND TO BE COMMENCED ON MONDAY NEXT.

Considerable interest is manifested in Rossland about the recruiting for the new Canadian contingent in South Africa, which the Dominion government has tentatively decided to style the "Canadian Yeomanry," an expression that is not very popular. The Canadians who saw service in South Africa witnessed too much of the "Yeomanry" class of mounted troops to have any desire to be classified in the same lot. A special from Ottawa says that the title may be changed to Royal Canadian Horse or Canadian Mounted Rifles.

Sergeant Joe Squires of Rossland may return to Africa with the new contingent. In any event he is likely to be assistant to the recruiting officer because of his experience in active service. Up to the present time, the militia department has not instructed any of the local militia officers to take action in the direction of asking for applications, but it is presumed that Lieutenant Hart-McHarg, who wore chevrons in the First Contingent, will be charged with the task of picking the Rossland men. Recruiting is to be commenced on Monday next.

The force will consist of four companies of 141 men each. Term of service is 12 months or for the duration of the war. No man under 20 or over 40 will be taken. The standard is not under 5 feet 5 inches; not to weigh more than 185 pounds; chest measurement not less than 34 inches; preference to be given men who have served in South Africa.

Recruiting is to be carried out at many points in the Northwest and British Columbia. For British Columbia the points are as follows: Victoria—Quota, 10, 9th December; recruiting officer, the D.O.C.; medical officer, surgeon-major of the Fifth Regiment, C.A.

Vancouver—Quota 20, 9th and 10th December; recruiting officer, Lieut. Colonel Wormsby; medical officer, surgeon-major of the Duke of Connaught's Own.

Revelstoke—Quota 10, 11th December; recruiting officer to be named later.

Nelson—Quota 10, 10th December. Rossland—Quota 10, 9th December. Fort Steele—Quota 10, 11th December; recruiting and medical officers to be named later.

Recruits are to be tested in riding and shooting. There will be a second medical examination in doubtful cases. Officers will be the point of concentration and transportation and subsistence will be provided. The yeomanry rates of pay range from \$1.21 for privates to \$2.19 per day for a regimental sergeant-major, and will date from day of embarkation. Previous to that day ordinary cavalry rates will prevail.

Further information relative to the formation of the corps is given in the following excerpt from Joseph Chamberlain's cable to the Dominion government in which are set forth the conditions that were accepted by the Ottawa authorities:

"Government gratefully accepts offer of corps consisting of not less than 600 men to be raised on the following lines:—(1) Men to be able to ride and shoot; (2) The Imperial Yeomanry rates of pay to be accepted, viz., cavalry rates to date of embarkation and Yeomanry rates, subsequently; (3) Canadian government to provide horses, saddlery, uniforms, boots, etc., on repayment; Imperial government to provide arms; (4) Officers to be nominated by Canadian government and their names submitted to commander-in-chief for approval of secretary of state for war; (5) medical conditions to be as for Imperial Yeomanry; (6) preference to be given to men who have had previous service in South Africa and to single men; married men and widowers, with children, will be accepted, provided that they understand that no separation allowance will be issued.

### TO VISIT ROSSLAND.

Biddy Bishop's Plan for a Lightweight Fight.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 2.—"Biddy" Bishop, the well known manager of pugilists, and today that he would take his star lightweight, Perry Quean, to Rossland, B.C., and pit him against Dal Hawkins or any good man in Queenan's class. Queenan is to fight Click Cae at Seattle on December 5th and Bishop would like to have Perry box at Rossland before his return here to meet Kid Parker. He has sent word to J. M. Hayden, the club manager, and in all probability the match will be made. Bishop is well known in Rossland, where he fought before he retired from the ring, and he is anxious to renew old acquaintances up there. Queenan is about the best of the lightweights that has visited us from the east in many a day, and his manager has unbanded faith in his ability to defeat any and all men in his class.

### THE GIDDY WHIRL.

George Pfunder, the well known mining man, has returned from a trip to Giddy New York, where his big diamonds undoubtedly gave the metropolitans the idea that to be from the great West was to wear sparks. While Mr. Pfunder was in the big city, the municipal elections came off and he states that the success of the Progressive party of the returns were indescribable. The excitement was intense, and for several hours the throng on Broadway completely tied up the street car service. Mr. Pfunder leaves tomorrow to look after his interests in the Republic camp.

Hiram and A. Loker were ticketed to Galt, Ont., yesterday over the Spokane Falls & Northern road.

SOME REGULATIONS WITH WHICH THE PUBLIC SHOULD BE FAMILIAR. AMERICAN STAMPS DO NOT GO.

The Canadian postal system is really a wonderfully efficient service, despite the minor difficulties under which Rosslanders labor in respect to their mails. So smoothly does the system work as a general rule that not one person in every hundred has any idea of the innumerable regulations and rules that are drafted for the guidance of the public. A few facts as to the rates on letters and parcels is about all the average man ever learns about the system, and for this reason a few pointers may not be out of place. For the information of mining engineers, brokers and others mailing ore samples it may be stated that such matter mailed in the Dominion for delivery in Canada is charged at the rate of one cent for every two ounces, with a maximum of five pounds. For delivery in the United States the rate is one cent for two ounces, with a minimum payment of two cents at a maximum weight of 12 ounces. In event of a person desiring to send more than 12 ounces to the United States the rate is charged as fourth class matter at one cent per ounce. In no case can ore samples at above rates be dispatched in sealed packages closed against inspection.

The only articles that can be sent to the United States closed against inspection are letters. The prepayment, therefore, on any article in a closed packet at letter rates does not entitle it to go forward by post to that country, there being an express regulation that matter posted as a letter must be in the usual and ordinary form of letters.

Another point of considerable importance in Rossland is that American stamps are not honored by the Canadian postoffice department. Many persons coming here from the other side of the international boundary line apparently quite forget the fact that they are no longer on United States soil, and calmly deposit letters in the postoffice bearing United States stamps. It is remarkable how frequently this is done. The only course that the local postoffice officials can take is to send letters thus prepaid to the branch postoffice at Victoria. The latter course is adopted also in the case of all matter mailed for delivery in the United States and not fully prepaid, except in the case of letters, which are forwarded if prepaid one rate of two cents. The importance of having an understanding as to the postal rates on all articles not ordinary letters before depositing them at the postoffice will be understood.

The practice among business houses of having an address printed on the outside of envelopes to ensure the return of letters which may not reach the parties for whom they are intended is now almost universal, but it would be well if private parties took the same course. Every letter should contain within the full address and name of the writer, as this would ensure its return from the dead letter office. Better still, the writer's name and address should be on the outside of the letter, as this would save the time lost in transmitting the communication to the dead letter office. Another difficulty the postal people contend with is that of parties leaving the city without notifying the office of their address. Persons changing their addresses or desiring to have correspondence re-directed should inform the postmaster in writing, stating the old as well as the new address. Such notification cannot be complied with for a longer period than three months, unless it be renewed, nor is more than one renewal allowed.

## CITY NEWS

ODD FELLOWS DANCE.—The Odd Fellows have decided to hold a dance on Christmas night in the Miners' Union hall. The reputation of the members of the order as entertainers will ensure a big attendance.

FIREMEN TO DANCE.—The initial committee in connection with the annual dance under the auspices of the fire department have been formed. The function takes place on New Year's eve, when the fire-fighters with their guests will dance the old year out and the new year in.

NEW OFFICERS HERE.—Ensign and Mrs. Larder, who take charge of the Salvation Army work in Rossland for the next six months, arrived on Monday evening. Tonight they will hold their opening meeting at the barracks. They come from the Maritime provinces, where they have been in charge at different points during the past fifteen years.

A RUSH.—In some quarters the opinion has been expressed that recruiting for another South African contingent would not be nearly as enthusiastic as has been the case in the past, but the indications tend to utterly disprove this theory. If anything like the number of men who are talking about enlisting make application for the contingent, the officers in charge will have a difficult task to select their men. A special feature of the new contingent is the number of members of former

contingents who propose to apply for the new corps. Many of the old veterans have decided to try fortune on the veldt again, and will wear the khaki jacket as a preliminary step.

DEAD CELESTIAL.—Sag, a laundryman residing on Washington street, died yesterday after a long illness. He was 42 years of age and had lived in this city for some time.

NEW TEACHER.—Wilbert Elley has been appointed to the teaching staff of the Rossland public schools, vice Miss Falding, who has resigned from the service.

WERE DEFEATED.—The Rossland football players who went to Trail on Sunday were defeated by the Smoke Town boys, the score being 2-1. A return game will be played here on Sunday next.

LEAVES FOR REPUBLIC.—Albert Hatton, late steward of the Allan House, and connected with the different cafes here for the past five years, leaves this morning for Republic to take a position with Ernest Bealset, late of the Clarendon.

NEEDS ATTENTION.—Complaint is made that the change in the track of the Spokane Falls & Northern road near the Black Bear has seriously injured the public thoroughfare that crosses the track at that point, and attention is to be called to the necessity of making the crossing passable.

COMPLETED.—The finishing touches have been given to the new public school and the building is now in shape to be taken over by the government, as soon as the final estimates are passed. The building has been swept and is ready for the visit of the inspector.

SOLD HORSES.—The Red Star Transfer company has completed the sale of the white team taken over to Nelson last week to be tested for the fire brigade. The corporation of Nelson paid \$500 for the animals and secured a pair of horses that are well suited to the purpose for which they are intended.

TO EARTH.—The remains of the late Charlie Sing, the Chinese laundryman who died Monday, were buried yesterday. The obsequies were conducted by the local lodge of the Hung Tang order, and were in charge of Mah Fong, head of the fraternity. There was none of the noise and clutter usually associated with such occasions.

FOR ANALYSIS.—Dr. Fagan, provincial health officer, has an account for \$100 against the corporation for the analysis of a stomach submitted to his department. A question has arisen as to the city's liability for the payment of the account, and the matter has been placed in the hands of the city solicitor for an opinion.

OFFICIAL TRIP.—Dr. Fagan, provincial health officer, leaves today for the Boundary on his official trip of inspection. After completing his visit to the Boundary country he will inspect the conditions with respect to quarantine regulations existing at the various ports of entry and will return to the coast through Washington state with a view to ascertaining the condition of things there.

QUEEN'S MEMORY.—The Rossland postoffice will be a monument to the memory of the late lamented Queen. The main entrance bears the inscription "V.R. 1900," not "E.R. 1901," as might have been expected since the building was scarcely commenced until the early part of the present year. The date applies to the time of the passing of the grant for construction.

INCOME GROWING.—The customs duties collected at the port of Rossland for the month of November show a substantial increase over the figures for the preceding thirty days and are within a few points of the figures for last year. No more significant feature in demonstration of the rapidly returning normal conditions in Rossland can be produced than the constantly growing volume of goods passing through the customs department.

BIG DEAL ON.—The corporation has a big deal on its hands. Messrs. Martin Brothers have offered to pay the city \$12 for the wagon box that lies under the city stables. As the article in question is of no specific value to the corporation, not having been used for a year, the matter is likely to be closed up without the legal delays and unwinding of red tape that ordinarily accompanies such negotiations.

START TODAY.—The first underground work will be done on the Centre Star mine today. The contractors in the shaft will start work on the 600 foot level, and will resume the prosecution of their contract in the shaft as soon as the balance of the shaft is unwatered. About 150 feet remains to be pumped out. Yesterday the hoisting engine used in raising muck was taken down to the 600 foot level, from which point upward the hoisting is done by the apparatus at the headworks.

REORGANIZED.—The Health and Relief committee of the city council has been reorganized. The absence of Alderman Roit from the city left the committee without a head, and the members appointed Alderman Armstrong to officiate in the capacity of chairman for the balance of the year. Alderman Armstrong is familiar with the committee's department and has usually taken the chair in the absence of the chairman. While the committee has nothing of special importance on its hands at the present moment, something may transpire any day to require urgent attention, and it was deemed eminently important to have a proper organization to deal with any matter that might come up.

## COL. PRIOR IS UNSEATED

The Petition Against Mr. Earle's Return is Withdrawn.

Yellow Fever Reported on the War Vessel Amphion.

VICTORIA, Dec. 2.—(Special.)—Colonel Prior was unseated this morning as member of parliament for Victoria, his counsel pleading guilty to the hiring of hacks and thus violating the election act. The petition against the return of Thomas Earle was withdrawn.

W. H. Kearny and Thomas Owen were nominated for mayor in New Westminster today.

Company 21, R.G.A., from Bermuda, consisting of 165 men, reached here last night, with 26 engineers, for garrison duty. Company 19 goes tomorrow to China.

The Waspette left for England today. It is reported at Esquimalt that there is yellow fever on the Amphion at Panama.

The steamer Hordia, with lumber from Portland for Manila, arrived here yesterday to be surveyed by a diver. While crossing the Columbia river bar she struck and the waves washed over her, smashing one of her boats. It was feared that her plates had been damaged, but an examination by a diver showed that she had suffered no damage and she proceeded on her voyage today.

### Lead Possibilities.

The production of lead for the month of September shows a slight increase, over August, being, in round numbers, 3,100,000 pounds. The importations were considerably higher than in August, reaching the total of more than 2,600,000 pounds. All lead imports cost the Canadian people a few dollars more than \$100,000. Had they paid 3 cents a pound for the lead they use they would have paid \$78,000 for it. This leaves a possible manufacturing business of \$22,000 a month to be done without costing the consumers any more than at present, and not taking into account the cost of the material used. A line of industry which has a turnover of that sum a month, or \$250,000 a year is quite an important one. The lead in ore sold last September averaged the mine owner only about 1.45 cents per pound, or the whole output of 3,100,000 pounds, \$45,000. Three cents a pound for the 3,600,000 pounds imported would have brought \$78,000 so that there is a possible business of for the smelters and refiners of \$33,000 a month, or \$400,000 a year. An equitable division of this sum among the mine owners and refiners would give an immense impetus to mining in the Slokan and East Kootenay. There would still remain 600,000 pounds to be disposed of at present prices which would bring the total receipts from lead for the month up to \$84,700, or \$1,016,400 for the year. The refining of lead in Canada and the retaining of the home market for home mines possibly can be done only with a small margin of profit, smaller than in most lines of business, but the question now is whether with the establishment of the refining industry the present conditions could be bettered. It looks as if the conditions were as unfavorable now as they are likely to be, while the growth of Canada alone and the new markets that are opening up gives promise of better prices for what is to be exported. It is plain that unless the price of lead in the United States to the miners falls very much below what it is now, the United States can never with their own lead enter the foreign market. The smelters of that country now export only the lead they have imported in bond from Canada and Mexico. In other words, Canada and Mexico supply the raw ore on which several large smelters and refiners are kept going, and there seems to be no good reason why those industries cannot be carried on as well as in Canada as in the United States. Canada could also import from Mexico, if need be. A fall in the price of lead, such as would enable United States lead to reach the world's market, would close down many of the mines there and thus prevent a surplus in the world's supply. With the improved machinery, large supply of coal, electric and water power available, and a well-skilled labor as can be obtained anywhere, the way appears open for Canada to eventually cut a figure as a lead producing country, particularly as the lead is here always associated with silver, sometimes in quite large quantities.—Nelson Miner.

GOOD SHOW.—The International music hall drew a big house last night and the audience had a heap of fun. The programme now put on by the management is excellent. Basco is funny, the Whitties put on a clever musical turn, the pictures are above the average, and Ola Hayden, an old Rossland favorite, is back for an engagement. Miss Hayden appeared in her old songs last night; at least her voice was as big a baritone as ever. A special feature of the performance was the drawing of fifty prizes by the audience. The incidents connected with the drawing were in many instances exceedingly amusing. The show merits a good house nightly.

More colds are cured by Pains-Balm than any other one remedy. It cures quickly and certainly. Bronchial affections give way readily to it. Manufactured by the proprietors of Perry Davis' Pain-Killer.