

MR. BLAIR'S VISIT

Minister of Railways [Presented With an Address from Board] of Trade.

The Importance of Railway Connection to Province is Brought to His Notice.

There was a large attendance of members and others at the British Columbia Board of Trade rooms at three o'clock this afternoon, when an address of welcome was presented to Hon. A. G. Blair, minister of railways and canals. In reply to the address Hon. Mr. Blair delivered a forcible speech, in which he referred to the opening out of this province by railways. A report of Hon. Mr. Blair's speech will appear to-morrow's issue. Below is the address presented by the Board of Trade to the Honorable A. G. Blair, Minister of Railways and Canals.

It affords the members of the British Columbia Board of Trade great pleasure in welcoming you upon this, your first visit to this province. You will find appended to this address a memorandum of requirements which was presented to the Hon. J. Israel Tarte and the Hon. L. H. Davies during their late visits, which covers the most pressing needs coming under the heads of different departments.

We desire to avail ourselves of the opportunity now afforded us to place before you as minister of railways and canals some important matters affecting this province at the present time.

Your visit has no doubt already enabled you to form an opinion, which we cannot but conclude will be favorable, of the vast mineral resources of the Kootenay district.

This board has learned with pleasure that such assistance will more than likely be granted to the Crow's Nest Pass railway during the coming session of parliament that will ensure its early construction. The great benefit this will be to the Dominion is unquestioned, and we would impress upon you most strongly the fact that in the opinion of this board assistance of the Dominion towards the construction of a direct line to Kootenay from this coast, simultaneously with the Crow's Nest railway is of vital importance.

We call your attention to the fact that a large supply of English goods is carried by the coast wholesalers, which class of trade has hitherto been supplied from our cities, but it can now be clearly seen that the large houses of Spokane, by importing the same kind of goods direct by sailing vessel to the Sound ports and thence to their city in bond and delivering from bonded warehouses direct to Kootenay points, a serious competition has been established through the advantage Spokane has in supplying orders in a very much shorter time than from here.

This is only one illustration of how the coast cities are handicapped, and the difficulty can only be surmounted by a direct line to Kootenay which would bring not only the Kootenay country in close touch with the coast cities, but also the equally rich mineral as well as agricultural country through which the line would pass.

Such a line would also be the means of bringing about the erection of smelters at the coast, the advantages of which would be very great owing to the splendid opportunity of selecting not only the different Kootenay points but also from the coast cities on the coast the classes of ore necessary for fluxing and thereby ensuring successful smelting at the lowest possible cost.

This board would also draw your attention to the great opportunity which is afforded your government of taking into serious consideration the assisting of a line to the north generally known as the British Pacific that would open up through the Cariboo country one of the richest agricultural tracts in the Dominion as well as bring in touch with the outside world that portion of British Columbia lying hundreds of miles to the north of the Canadian Pacific railway and which is now only partly reached by wagon road.

The confidence capitalists are now showing in the immense mineral wealth of this district cannot be better illustrated than by the large quantity of hydraulic and mining machinery that is now being forwarded by the wagon road and the prosecution of extensive mining undertakings and the exceedingly heavy cost of working mines in this part of the country. If it is possible for mines to be worked at a profit after importing machinery on which as high as five and six cents per pound freight has to be paid in addition to the railway charges, it can be clearly seen what immense advantages would be derived by having this part of the country reached by rail.

The feasibility of this northern route has been clearly demonstrated by surveys made years ago by the Dominion government as well as by later investigations by the provincial government and which all go to prove that this road

Awarded Highest Honors—World's Fair, DR. BAKER'S

Advertisement for Baker's Cream Baking Powder, featuring an image of a woman and child, and text describing the product's quality and history.

CASE OF THE ADA

Charles Lundberg Gives Evidence as to the Seizure of That Schooner.

How the Crew Were Treated While Remaining at Ounalsaka and Sitka.

Continuing his evidence yesterday afternoon before the Behring Sea Claims Convention, Captain Leachlan McLean said his total catch in Behring Sea in 1887 was 1884 seals.

To Mr. Warren—Witness said he had a conversation with Sir George Baden-Powell as to seal life when that gentleman was here. Shown a statement in the printed report of the Paris Tribunal made by Sir George Baden-Powell that the total catch of the Favorite in 1887 was 1887 seals, he said the statement was not based on information supplied by him.

Allow us to again remind you that British Columbia is a young and undeveloped province and whose natural resources are such as we believe are not equalled by any other province in the Dominion. To make these natural resources productive and to settle the lands with a happy and contented people it will require assistance from the Dominion which may temporarily add to the national indebtedness, but from which we are satisfied the best returns can be had.

For the British Columbia Board of Trade. D. R. Ker, President. F. ELWORTHY, Secretary. Victoria, B.C., December 18th, 1896.

PATHETIC APPEALS.

Sad Condition of Canadians Who Went to Brazil.

There will probably never be a second batch of Canadian emigrants to Brazil. The following extracts from letters written by a respectable Montreal woman to her parents and brother and sister, on behalf of her husband, children and herself, will give an idea of the state of things that awaited the trusting creatures who believed the fine promises of the agents:

"Dear Father and Mother: I am writing this letter to you on my bed on the floor, in which I have been now for four days, and little George is close to death's door. To tell you the truth, we are all nearly starving, for we cannot get enough bread to eat, and as for butter, we dare not think of it. Dear father, those papers we came out on were nothing but frauds. The British consul is doing all he can for us, but he will not send us back. Now, father, if you want to see the children and myself alive again you will try and raise two hundred dollars and send it to us to bring us home. I am sure you would not see your dog lying as I am lying, and to see the children in such a worse; and as for Jack, he is nearly off his head with being up all night with the children and me, dear father, I know it is a great deal to ask you to do, but we surely repay you, giving you the half of Jack's wages till you are fully paid. Do not delay, but write to return post, for I am sure if I have to stop here much longer I will surely die. Try, father, all you know, how for God's sake. Jack is working at 75 cents per day. Tea is \$1.40 a pound, potatoes, \$1 a peck; bread, 15 cents a pound; meat, 20 cents a pound; sugar, 20 cents. We have not tasted potatoes since we came here. Everybody else is in the same way, though some can stand it better than others. Dear father, if mother, if you will send us the money, we will be grateful all our lives."

"Dear Sister and Brother: I am in bed, and a fine bed it is too. Jack sent me a kick, and got it filled with wood shavings, and that on the floor, so you can tell I am well off. I would not care for myself, however, only the little ones are always crying for bread, and poor little Bill and Jim say they wish they were back again with Auntie Ettie. Dear father, I have no heart to tell you what I have gone through, and I sincerely trust you will never have to do the same. The papers we came out on were all a fraud. We are just left Victoria on her sailing, the Ada, to Behring Sea. The schooner was seized in Behring Sea by the United States cutter Bear on August 25th and taken to Ounalsaka. When alongside the wharf at Ounalsaka the officers of the cutter took ashore the skins and arms of the schooner. The captain of the Bear asked for the log book and Captain Gordon, after obtaining the log book, turned it to him, gave it to him. He never got it back. The crew were ordered to remain on board for four or five days. There was a special policeman on board. The captain went away then and they were left there destitute of means to get away. Witness applied to the governor for aid to get away. They remained at Sitka until September 25th, when they were taken home by the United States cutter Rush. While at Sitka they used the provisions of the Ada. The special policeman placed on board took some of the schooner's provisions on shore. When seized on August 15th they had 1876 seals on board; had they not been seized they could have got one thousand more."

To Mr. Lansing—He said the crew had stayed on board the Ada at Sitka until ten days after they arrived there, when the provisions gave out. They sold some of their clothes for food. The Commission then adjourned until 2:30 o'clock this afternoon. Yesterday afternoon when the Commission resumed its sitting Capt. Clarence Cox and Capt. O'Leary gave evidence as to catches of seals made in Behring Sea and the distribution of the seals in the sea.

Capt. Bissett was this morning examined as to the probable catch in 1880 and the seizure of the schooner Pathfinder. In that year he was mate

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on the schooner Theresa on her sealing cruise in Behring Sea. On the last day of July the Theresa was boarded by an officer of the United States cutter Rush, who told witness of the seizure of the Pathfinder. After that day they went southwards and sealed for fear of seizure. Sealers were not so plentiful there. They got a very small catch that season, between 600 and 700 seals.

To Mr. Dickinson—Seals were very plentiful on the day they were boarded by the Rush, but they did not lower any boats. The reason why they did not lower any boats was because they were running away from the cutter, which was pursuing them.

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The Two Big California Universities Will have Teams Next Year.

Considerable Interest Being Taken in the Movement by Track Athletes and Others.

A dispatch from Stanford University to the San Francisco Examiner says: Undoubtedly this year will see the addition of a new intercollegiate sport to the list of those in which the two California universities annually contend for the mastery. Lacrosse teams are being organized both at Stanford and the University of California, and early in next summer a game will be played between the young teams, which it is hoped will win popularity for this form of sport and give it a permanent place on the coast.

The game has won a tolerably well-recognized position in Eastern colleges and a number of them put teams into the field regularly, notably Harvard, Princeton, Lehigh and Stevens Institute of Technology. Though it never attracted general attention and aroused college enthusiasm as have football, rowing and baseball, yet it is an admirable game and one of which those skilled in it are thoroughly devoted. The climatic conditions here are such as to make it probable that lacrosse will reach a higher plane in the popular favor and the esteem of the athletes of Berkeley and Stanford than it has attained to the East. There it can only be played after the snows of winter and the early spring rains have given way to more propitious weather. By that time athletic energy must be concentrated upon track athletics—baseball, rowing and tennis—and lacrosse goes to the wall in competition with its firmly established rivals. But in California even the first months of the second half of the college year have enough pleasant weather to admit of considerable progress in outdoor games, and long before the other sports have monopolized attention the Stanford and Berkeley university teams will be able to get into condition and meet in an intercollegiate contest. With the field to itself it is bound to arouse the interest and excite the enthusiasm of the students of the rival institutions. Further, its popularity among the athletes themselves is assured, because it will be used as a means of preparation for other sports, particularly for the track. In deed, that is the prime object of the movement for lacrosse teams in the two universities. It is being worked by the track men more for the sake of track athletics than of lacrosse itself. Lacrosse is a secondary consideration with them, the main thing being the excellent preliminary training the game furnishes sprinters and runners. But the few devotees of lacrosse look beyond that to the time when they will have a place of its own and will be played for its own sake. Meanwhile they are glad that the conditions seem so favorable for the transplanting of the Canadian favorite to California's soil.

Lacrosse is Indian in origin, and later it was taken up by the French-Canadian and named by them from the resemblance of the hooked, netted stick used to a bishop's crozier. The British colonists took it up, and the French took it up with even more enthusiasm, and it has won the distinction of being the national game of Canada. The National Lacrosse Association of Canada was formed in 1867, at Ounalsaka, and the United States Intercollegiate Lacrosse Association formed, and it has never been on a very solid footing.

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When first proposed the Berkeley athletes looked upon it with little favor, thinking Stanford had a number of lacrosse players, but when they found the conditions were practically the same they saw the advantages of the plan and expressed their approval of it. Track Captain Everett Brown recently visited Stanford to confer with Captain Dole on the subject and it is now tolerably certain that teams from Berkeley and Stanford will meet in friendly rivalry some time in February or March next semester.

LAW INTELLIGENCE. The trial of Shalleross (receiver of the Garesche estate) vs. Garesche and Wilson was adjourned this afternoon by Mr. Justice Walker until Tuesday next. His lordship could not hear the case as he is engaged in preparing his judgments in several cases now pending before the courts. ES. Cassidy for plaintiff and L. P. Duff and A. P. Lutton for defendants.

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Richness of Shoal Bay Camp, Thurlow Island. Mr. James King, the well-known timber cruiser, who has just returned from a six months' sojourn to Loughborough Inlet, is enthusiastic over the mining possibilities of that district, where he made some fine finds of copper and silver some time ago. Mr. King spent the greater portion of the summer on Thurlow Island, situated directly opposite Loughborough Inlet on the Mainland, and about 220 miles north of Victoria. Mr. King has mined in Montana, California and Alaska, and has no hesitation in saying that the prospects on Thurlow Island eclipse anything he has ever seen. The whole country seems rich in minerals, principally sulphide ores carrying gold, silver, copper, iron and a small quantity of galena with veins varying in width from one to 1500 feet, one ledge upon which is located a number of very promising claims is of the latter width and can be traced for four or five miles.

Mr. King and Thomas McGuire, his partner, located upwards of a dozen claims for a Victoria syndicate, who will commence the work of development in the spring with a large force of men. The White Pine mine, owned by John Wolcott, of Seattle, located on this ledge, is being actively developed; a force of fifteen men were at work when Mr. King left.

The Alouette claim has been sold for \$120,000 to San Francisco parties and the Bobbie Burns has brought its owners the neat little sum of \$110,000. Mr. King only came to Victoria for the holidays and will return to the camp almost immediately with a party of Victorians who propose engaging in mining operations in the rich Shoal Bay camp. Mr. King is stopping at the Oriental and will be pleased during his stay in Victoria to meet any one interested in the new camp.

NEW MINING COMPANIES. Eight Announced in This Week's Gazette. Notice is given in the current issue of the B. C. Gazette of the incorporation of eight new mining companies, the aggregate capital being \$8,650,000. Of the new companies only one, the British Columbia Gold Company, has its principal place of business here. The Provisional Trustees are Messrs. A. J. McLellan, L. Goodacre and A. R. T. Williams. The list of new companies follows: Alpha Bell Gold Quartz Mining Company of Vancouver, \$200,000. Black Rock Gold Mining Company of Seattle, \$1,000,000. Bowen Island Mining Company of Tacoma, \$4,000,000. British Columbia Gold Property Company of Victoria, \$250,000. Dundurn Gold Mining Company of Rossland, \$1,000,000. Goodier Gold Mining Company of Rossland, \$1,000,000. Quesnelle Mining Company of Chisago, \$1,000,000. Snokane-Kaslo Mining & Milling Co. of Spokane, \$800,000.

TO PLAY LACROSSE GOLDEN KOOTENAY. The Two Big California Universities Will have Teams Next Year. Considerable Interest Being Taken in the Movement by Track Athletes and Others. A dispatch from Stanford University to the San Francisco Examiner says: Undoubtedly this year will see the addition of a new intercollegiate sport to the list of those in which the two California universities annually contend for the mastery. Lacrosse teams are being organized both at Stanford and the University of California, and early in next summer a game will be played between the young teams, which it is hoped will win popularity for this form of sport and give it a permanent place on the coast.

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Considerable Interest Being Taken in the Movement by Track Athletes and Others.

A dispatch from Stanford University to the San Francisco Examiner says: Undoubtedly this year will see the addition of a new intercollegiate sport to the list of those in which the two California universities annually contend for the mastery. Lacrosse teams are being organized both at Stanford and the University of California, and early in next summer a game will be played between the young teams, which it is hoped will win popularity for this form of sport and give it a permanent place on the coast.

The game has won a tolerably well-recognized position in Eastern colleges and a number of them put teams into the field regularly, notably Harvard, Princeton, Lehigh and Stevens Institute of Technology. Though it never attracted general attention and aroused college enthusiasm as have football, rowing and baseball, yet it is an admirable game and one of which those skilled in it are thoroughly devoted. The climatic conditions here are such as to make it probable that lacrosse will reach a higher plane in the popular favor and the esteem of the athletes of Berkeley and Stanford than it has attained to the East. There it can only be played after the snows of winter and the early spring rains have given way to more propitious weather. By that time athletic energy must be concentrated upon track athletics—baseball, rowing and tennis—and lacrosse goes to the wall in competition with its firmly established rivals. But in California even the first months of the second half of the college year have enough pleasant weather to admit of considerable progress in outdoor games, and long before the other sports have monopolized attention the Stanford and Berkeley university teams will be able to get into condition and meet in an intercollegiate contest. With the field to itself it is bound to arouse the interest and excite the enthusiasm of the students of the rival institutions. Further, its popularity among the athletes themselves is assured, because it will be used as a means of preparation for other sports, particularly for the track. In deed, that is the prime object of the movement for lacrosse teams in the two universities. It is being worked by the track men more for the sake of track athletics than of lacrosse itself. Lacrosse is a secondary consideration with them, the main thing being the excellent preliminary training the game furnishes sprinters and runners. But the few devotees of lacrosse look beyond that to the time when they will have a place of its own and will be played for its own sake. Meanwhile they are glad that the conditions seem so favorable for the transplanting of the Canadian favorite to California's soil.

Lacrosse is Indian in origin, and later it was taken up by the French-Canadian and named by them from the resemblance of the hooked, netted stick used to a bishop's crozier. The British colonists took it up, and the French took it up with even more enthusiasm, and it has won the distinction of being the national game of Canada. The National Lacrosse Association of Canada was formed in 1867, at Ounalsaka, and the United States Intercollegiate Lacrosse Association formed, and it has never been on a very solid footing.

At Stanford about eleven men have been practicing somewhat. Twelve men are required for a team, and an effort will be made to get enough recruits from among the track men to put in the field to play against each other. Track Captain Charles S. Dole is the only man at Stanford who has played lacrosse, and it is mainly through his efforts that interest has been aroused in it. New sticks will be ordered at once, and with the opening of next season the men will begin practicing about three times a week under Captain Dole's instruction. Professor Frank Angell, the chairman of the Faculty Athletic Committee, is a lacrosse enthusiast, and is greatly in favor of its establishment as an intercollegiate sport.

When first proposed the Berkeley athletes looked upon it with little favor, thinking Stanford had a number of lacrosse players, but when they found the conditions were practically the same they saw the advantages of the plan and expressed their approval of it. Track Captain Everett Brown recently visited Stanford to confer with Captain Dole on the subject and it is now tolerably certain that teams from Berkeley and Stanford will meet in friendly rivalry some time in February or March next semester.

LAW INTELLIGENCE. The trial of Shalleross (receiver of the Garesche estate) vs. Garesche and Wilson was adjourned this afternoon by Mr. Justice Walker until Tuesday next. His lordship could not hear the case as he is engaged in preparing his judgments in several cases now pending before the courts. ES. Cassidy for plaintiff and L. P. Duff and A. P. Lutton for defendants.

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Richness of Shoal Bay Camp, Thurlow Island. Mr. James King, the well-known timber cruiser, who has just returned from a six months' sojourn to Loughborough Inlet, is enthusiastic over the mining possibilities of that district, where he made some fine finds of copper and silver some time ago. Mr. King spent the greater portion of the summer on Thurlow Island, situated directly opposite Loughborough Inlet on the Mainland, and about 220 miles north of Victoria. Mr. King has mined in Montana, California and Alaska, and has no hesitation in saying that the prospects on Thurlow Island eclipse anything he has ever seen. The whole country seems rich in minerals, principally sulphide ores carrying gold, silver, copper, iron and a small quantity of galena with veins varying in width from one to 1500 feet, one ledge upon which is located a number of very promising claims is of the latter width and can be traced for four or five miles.

Mr. King and Thomas McGuire, his partner, located upwards of a dozen claims for a Victoria syndicate, who will commence the work of development in the spring with a large force of men. The White Pine mine, owned by John Wolcott, of Seattle, located on this ledge, is being actively developed; a force of fifteen men were at work when Mr. King left.

The Alouette claim has been sold for \$120,000 to San Francisco parties and the Bobbie Burns has brought its owners the neat little sum of \$110,000. Mr. King only came to Victoria for the holidays and will return to the camp almost immediately with a party of Victorians who propose engaging in mining operations in the rich Shoal Bay camp. Mr. King is stopping at the Oriental and will be pleased during his stay in Victoria to meet any one interested in the new camp.

NEW MINING COMPANIES. Eight Announced in This Week's Gazette. Notice is given in the current issue of the B. C. Gazette of the incorporation of eight new mining companies,