# TALES OF CAPE BRETON COAL AND GOLD FINDS

**A Story That a Miner Discovered a Billion Tons of Fuel Under the Dominion Coal Company's Property—Rich Ore at Seal Harbor.**

New York Sunday Herald.

Patrick Neville, an old miner, discovered a few days ago the greatest seam of coal ever located in the world's history of mining. Percy J. White of Glace Bay, has discovered millions in gold.

Neville has proved to the satisfaction of the Dominion Coal Company that a bed of coal containing close to one billion tons lies under their known coal seams, a seam still untapped, which may not be needed for a century.

The discoverer of this wealth is a simple, hard-working man, 74 years old. He is undisturbed by his great find. He is perfectly content with the honor of being a discoverer, and is grateful for a purse of $5,000 given him by the officials of the company.

"What do you expect to get out of your great discovery?" Mr. Neville was asked by a reporter.

"Why, nothing. The coal belongs to the company; it is under their property."

"What good does that do you?"

"I haven't thought about its doing me any good. I am glad for the company, that's all."

"Well, what made you so anxious to prove that the coal was there?"

"Why, I knew it was there; at least I believed it was so firmly that nothing could make me doubt it; and it is there. There can't anybody contradict me any more. We drilled down into the ground and found it."

Patrick Neville left school when 14 years old and began work as a driver in the mines. Later he became an assistant miner, and finally a cutter of coal. He has been a miner for sixty years.

People used to say Neville was a bore with his theories about mining. But his thinking was always practical. No one had a better idea of how a mine should be timbered than he. He was mindful of the safety of others who might come after him.

Neville was appreciated by the company, and it promoted him to offices of trust. He was overseer and inspector in several of the mines years ago. And his success made jealousy and envy, as all success does. He was supposed to be a company man, not in sympathy with labor and labor's rights.

He saved money and got on in the world. When the miner was 60 years old the government, on the lookout for good men, selected him for a deputy inspector of mines. A good salary is attached to this position, and there was opportunity for a frugal man to lay by a little. Neville held to his course, and got to be thought of in the community as a man of means.

"How much do you suppose Neville's worth?" was a common question among his old associates. No one knew, but all were of the opinion that he had his little pile. After twenty years' service Mr. Neville retired, and the company made him a general inspector and overseer. Time hung heavily on his hands, and the old ideas about coal began to trouble him.

"There's more coal under these mines than has ever been dreamed of by the company," he would say at home, and strike the table a blow with his hand.

"What makes you think so?" his son's wife would say. She was a newcomer in the family, and not so used to his ruminations as his own children.

"Don't you start father, or he'll talk you to death about the mines," her husband warned her good-naturedly. But the pretty young wife was fond of her father-in-law, and kept close to his elbow.

### Neville Explains.

"It's like this," said the old man to his sympathetic listener. "You know that Washington pie we had for dinner? Well, the Sydney coal seams all lay that way, one seam under the other. There are outcroppings which show that there is a deeper layer than has been reached. I believe it is about one thousand feet down, and thicker and richer than any of them. If it could be reached, one hundred per cent. of it could be mined, because there would be no danger of cave in from above and nothing would have to be left for a roof."

"How could you prove it?" asked young Mrs. Neville.

"It could be proved easily with test drills. Those drills that they have now will bring up a cone of earth showing everything there is in the soil as far as they reach."

"Well, why don't you make them let you prove it, then?"

"It takes money and men; and the company ain't interested, because they have coal enough for years to come."

"But it would be an honor to you and a satisfaction," persisted the young woman. "I believe the company would give you the chance to prove it if you asked them."

The old man shook his head, but the faith of the younger mind took hold of him. So one day when he met one of the officials he broached the subject, and was told to go ahead. The company had tried to find this seam before, and men had wasted time in desultory efforts. But when Patrick Neville started out he knew what he meant to do and where to make his borings.

It took him just one week to demonstrate the truth of the idea he had held for years, and the results of his discoveries amazed the president of the Dominion Coal Company, James Ross, so much, that he left his home in Montreal and came to Sydney in his private car. Neville was called in to explain to the president what he had found out, and for three hours he held the man, worth $30,000,000, spellbound with his revelations.

They were very polite to Mr. Neville. The officials of the company gave the old miner a supper, made speeches to him, and finally presented him with a purse containing $5,000 in gold.

Another miner of Glace Bay has made a great discovery of mineral wealth recently. This man is Percy J. White. White was a miner in the coal fields, but he dreamed other dreams than Neville. His dream was of gold, and though he is not yet fifty years old, he has lived to realize the hopes of his life.

White came from Sussex, England. As a lad he was filled with the gold fever by a returned Australian miner, and used to spend his boyhood looking for gold quartz in England. When he was seventeen he ran away, landing at Halifax. For a while he worked as a lumberman, teaming for loggers on Gay's river, hauling wharf logs to Shubenacadie station.

Finally he became acquainted with an old prospector of thirty years' experience. For six years he tramped and prospected with the old miner, learning all the stories of probable mineral wealth in Nova Scotia and Cape Breton. While living this life he constantly met Guysboro miners, who told stories of the rich drift in Seal Harbor and various unsuccessful efforts to locate the gold belt.

White went to the Seal Harbor district on his own account about ten years ago, and talked with persons familiar with the district and the old shafts that had been driven in the hunt for the precious metal. He found the country honeycombed, and he studied what the plans of procedure had been and went away to think it out.

White formed an opinion of his own about the strata underlying the Seal Harbor country, but only after he had read all the literature obtainable on the subject.

White had a wife and family to support, and went to Glace Bay, the coal town of the Sydney fields, and began mining coal for a living. But he was not a very great success at coal mining because he was full of his own ideas, and was thought a little daft because of his hobby.

Last winter he lost his place and was hard up. He was about to be evicted for non-payment of rent, and the company stores would trust him no longer. So White went to two citizens of Glace Bay and told them what he thought of the possibility of finding gold at Seal Harbor. He did not ask for much—a little money for a "grub stake" and the assurance that they would look after his wife and family in his absence. So strong was his conviction that he would find gold it fired the minds of the men, and they gave him what he asked.

With one companion White set off for Seal Harbor. They settled down in a shanty and began working an abandoned mine. More than a quarter of a century ago A. B. McNaughton, with ten companions, spent five years in this place, striving to uncover gold quartz. McNaughton had given up, but so sure was he that the gold was there that he left a beaver hat with the settler with whom he lived, to be given to the man who should come after him and do what he had failed to do.

Where McNaughton failed, this poor coal miner, with almost no money and only one companion, made good his promise, and uncovered the gray quartz rocks which held in their embrace nuggets which promised great wealth. White exposed to view many leads gleaming with the virgin metal, and the government sent a geologist there to report. He declares Seal Harbor to be the richest gold area in Nova Scotia.

A close corporation was formed by the men who had advanced White his "grub stake," and they took White in with them.

### Lionizing the Finder.

Percy White came home from Seal Harbor a few weeks ago to pay his debts and get his family moved. He was the centre of an admiring crowd. Several geologists and members of the coal company wanted to have a talk with him, and they gave him a supper. The geologists were there in large numbers and asked Percy a lot of questions.

"I'll tell you about gold," said Percy. "You geologists never find it. You know it when you see it, and you can tell all about why it is where it is after some one else has thrown it from you. But the man that finds gold is that man who has gold in his heart; the man who has dreamed it for years."

# GOVERNMENT WILL HAVE FINE DISPLAY

**Promises to Be the Most Interesting Agricultural Exhibit at the Fair.**

By far the most interesting agricultural exhibit at the Dominion Fair will be the display which is being put up by the Dominion government under the direction of the department of agriculture fair expert, W. H. Hay, who came direct to New Westminster from the great exhibition now in progress at Liege, Belgium, to superintend the work.

Mr. Hay is a man of wide experience, having followed his present calling for the past eighteen years, during which time he has attended the world's greatest fairs. He has put up exhibits for the Dominion government at nine different fairs during the past sixteen months.

The exhibit here will, of course, be a small one to what Mr. Hay has put up at other fairs on account of the limited space, but will be a decidedly varied and attractive one. It will also be the most representative of British Columbia's agricultural products that has ever been shown.

The exhibit will occupy a prominent space opposite the main entrance of the agricultural hall. The ceiling and background decorations will all be of green and white and are now being put up in tasty designs. There will be six pillars, in addition to a long table surmounted with arches, and above the whole will be the sign, "British Columbia, the Land of Boundless Possibilities."

Over two hundred varieties of fresh fruits and a hundred varieties of bottled fruits will be shown, while there will be nearly a hundred and fifty different kinds of cereals in glass jars. In addition to these there will be many samples of vegetables and grain in the sheaf. The entire lot of samples was prepared for the show at the Agassiz experimental farm by Mr. Thos. Sharpe, the superintendent.

## TWENTY THOUSAND MEN STRIKE

Lodz, Sept. 22.—Twenty thousand workmen in the wool and cotton cloth factories struck today. They demand an increase in wages of 40 per cent. Two more regiments of dragoons have arrived and patrols are guarding the streets.

St. Petersburg, Sept. 22.—It is stated in military circles that the Russian troops in Turkestan will be strongly reinforced.

It is reported here that an outbreak at Nizhni Novgorod has resulted serfously.

## NOTES FROM GREENWOOD.

**Bold Depredations of a Bear—The Tariff Commission.**

Grand Forks, Sept. 22.—(Special)—The huckleberry season being now over, Mr. Bruin descends from his altitudes to exercise his thieving propensities upon the vineyards of this valley. Last night a bear, alleged by those who saw him, to be as big as a yearling calf, made a successful raid on Martin Burrill's grape patch at Riverside nurseries, some few miles from this city. This bear is an old pioneer of the valley, and from sacred regard of the early settlers has never attempted such a thing before; but the Nelson fair being on, and Mr. Burrill being absent, the bear had full swing, destroying many valuable vines. All the ranchers east of Grand Forks are now on the qui vive for Mr. Bruin

Hon. W. S. Fielding, L. P. Brodeur and Senator Templeman, accompanied by Duncan Ross, M. P., arrived here last evening by a Great Northern special train from Phoenix, at 9 o'clock. Owing to illness the Hon. Mr. Patterson remained in Rossland, and as there was no official business to transact at Grand Forks, the staff of clerks and reporters went back to Nelson today from Greenwood. The visit of the three on this occasion is entirely non-official. A public reception was held this morning, after which the party drove through the valley, visiting some of the model farms of the valley, after which the party made a thorough inspection of the Granby smelter, and will take the afternoon C. P. R. passenger for Nelson. In a short interview last evening, Senator Templeman said: "I have visited Grand Forks several times before, but always on hurried trips; this time I hope to see with my own eyes the much-talked-of Kettle valley, and also pay a visit to the Granby smelter, which I fully believe is most interesting."

# Yukon Lively Full of Hope

**Well Known Operators Report That Outlook Is Most Satisfactory.**

**Large Amount of Mining Will Be Carried on During the Present Winter.**

A quartette of well known Klondikers were among the passengers from the North on the steamer Princess Beatrice. The party comprised J. A. Macdonald, the last mayor of Dawson; Johnston Edwards, a prominent claim-owner on Miller creek; G. L. Gates, who owns claims on Bonanza and Eldorado creeks, and R. H. Kruger, a former member of the Northwest Mounted Police, but now interested in a number of mining claims near Dawson.

Mr. Macdonald, who was Dawson's chief magistrate before the civic form of government was given up as too expensive, and the control of the city handed over to the Territory, is one of the best known men in the North. He was on his way to the Portland fair when he was summoned to Seattle by a telegram announcing that his wife, who is visiting friends in that city, had been suddenly stricken with serious illness. He intends to stop over in Seattle, and will rejoin the party in Portland if his wife's health will permit.

"Dawson will be quieter than usual this winter," said Mr. Macdonald in an interview. "Probably 3,000 persons at the outside will winter in Dawson this year. But they will be nearly all workers, and the amount of mining that will be carried on through the winter will be, if anything, larger than usual. The drones that usually infest a mining camp are commencing to find out that it is an expensive matter to spend the winter in Dawson now. I think the next two steamers from the North will bring a very large number of Klondikers coming out for the winter. Everybody who has any mining interests on any of the creeks tributary to Dawson is very hopeful of the benefit which will accrue to the camp when the extensive hydraulic system is arranged for. The surveys for this are, I understand, progressing satisfactorily, and Engineer Thibeaudeau was expected back from the headwaters of some of the supply creeks a few days after I left. Governor McInnes and Dr. Alfred Thompson, the member for the Yukon, are both doing good work in the North. Many badly tangled up mining matters which have been the cause of legal fights for years are now being straightened out, and everything points to a prosperous mining season next year."

Johnston Edwards of Miller Creek is a pioneer of Yukon pioneers. Mr. Edwards went into the Yukon over the dreaded Chilkoot Pass in 1888, and, with the exception of a couple of trips to the outside, has been engaged in mining in the North ever since. These last two seasons he has struck it rich on some new claims which he and his partner located on Miller creek, situated about 65 miles from Dawson. When Mr. Edwards came off the steamer he had a sack of gold dust and nuggets in one of his coat pockets that made him walk lop-sided. He intends taking the nuggets down to the Portland fair and adding them to the Klondike exhibit which a friend of his is exhibiting there at present.

"The gold-bearing area on Miller creek is not very extensive, but what there is of it is very rich," said Mr. Edwards. "Our claims have panned out very well this season, but we hope to have better results next season, when we will have a more extensive water supply available."

Mr. Gates and Mr. Kruger are both well known mining men of Dawson, and are out to spend the winter.

## STATE WINS TAX SUIT.

**Western Union Telegraph Company's Assessment at St. Paul Stands.**

St. Paul, Minn., Sept. 22.—The State supreme court decided in favor of the state today in the case of the State of Minnesota against the Western Union Telegraph Company. It was a suit to collect taxes on a valuation of the company's property in the amount of $1,000,000. The valuation is based on the assessment upon the company's franchise.

## BUCKET SHOP RAIDED.

**Eleven Men and Two Women Arrested in Chicago Concern.**

Chicago, Sept. 22.—Detectives today raided the brokerage offices of Thomas Dasties & Company and arrested eleven men and two women. The raid followed charges that the firm had been doing a bucket shop business. The police assert they will have witnesses who have paid in over $200,000 into the concern.

# Governorship Of Manitoba

**Mr. Greenway's Name Mentioned in Connection With Approaching Vacancy.**

**An Interesting Budget of News From the Various Canadian Centres.**

Ottawa, Sept. 22.—The five years' term of office of Sir Daniel McMillan as Lieutenant-Governor of Manitoba expires next month. It is not thought likely that he will be reappointed, as several western politicians consider that they have equal claims to the position. Thomas Greenway, M. P., is said to be looking for it.

Customs figures for August show a further decline in the exports amounting to nearly a million, or $1,737,930 for the two months. The imports for July and August increased $2,187,265.

The Eddy Company have taken action against the Free Press for $10,000 for alleged libel in connection with the Chaudiere water lots dispute.

Dr. Wm. Saunders, director of experimental farms, in a telegram to the deputy minister of agriculture from Brandon, states that the crops this season are immense. He says the possibilities of wheat growing in the west are very great and insists that Maveor's estimate is entirely incorrect.

### School Boys Strike

Peterboro, Ont., Sept. 22.—Twenty boys, pupils in the Central public school have refused to enter a room in which they had been taught, the reason for this act being, as they alleged, the unsanitary condition of the room. It appears that for about a year this room has been in an unhealthy condition by reason of the plumbing, which was defective, and yesterday the pupils held a meeting, at which they decided not to attend school again until the conditions were improved. They assembled on the school grounds today before school and stated to the principal their determination to remain away and afterwards paraded the streets. The school authorities have known for some time of the sanitary conditions are unsatisfactory, and yesterday they got an expert from Toronto to report on it. In the meantime the boys were considered to be truants and the inspector will not allow them to return until they have apologized for their actions. The boys, it is said, are supported by their parents.

### Canon Deveber Dead.

St. John, N. B., Sept. 22.—Rev. A. H. Deveber, senior canon of the Episcopal church in New Brunswick, died this morning in his 82nd year.

### Items From Toronto

Toronto, Sept. 22.—At the session of the Dominion trades congress an amendment was added to the motion giving labor men freedom to support their candidate in elections who come nearest the views of the congress, in the absence of a labor candidate. The amendment stated that the clause must not be construed to sanction the appearance of labor men on the platform of any political party not distinctly a labor one. In a sharp debate the feeling was inclined towards breaking away from political lines.

Commissioner Coombes of the Salvation Army has returned to the city from Western Canada. He says the army expects to bring out 10,000 immigrants from the Old Country next year. It is the intention of the army to erect receiving homes at Montreal, Winnipeg and Vancouver. They will also erect a $50,000 hospital in Winnipeg.

Edward F. Taylor, a machinist living at 123 Spadina avenue, died tonight as the result of drinking carbolic acid. He was sitting at the dining table with his wife this afternoon, when he picked up a bottle containing the poison, which his wife had been using for some ailment, and drank the major portion of it.

The condition of Rev. Dr. Warden remains unchanged. His doctor says he has hopes of pulling him through, although he is dangerously ill.

Montreal, Sept. 22.—Miss Thomson, of St. John, N. B., today won the Canadian women's golf championship, defeating Miss Greene of Montreal, 9 up and 2 to play.

### Winnipeg Notes

Winnipeg, Sept. 22.—A despatch from Qu'Appelle says: Earl Grey and several gentlemen friends went to Poplar Point for chicken shooting this week and will return tomorrow or Sunday. Lady Grey, accompanied by Lady Morley, drove and Lady Parker and Lady Evelyn Grey rode to Fort Qu'Appelle on Tuesday and had tea with Mr. and Mrs. McDonald, of the Hudson's Bay Company, returning to camp for dinner. Duck shooting is reported good. On Monday the party go to File Mills and return in time to visit the Industrial school at Lebret on Wednesday next.

Yesterday 414,000 bushels of wheat were shipped at C. P. R. points, bringing the total to over 3,000,000 bushels for the month. Brandon district and southern Manitoba are showing greatest activity.

American traveling passenger agents returning from the convention at Portland will reach the city tomorrow morning and will be given a public entertainment here during the day.

The Souris lacrosse team contemplates a trip to the Dominion fair.

Mr. Camp, electrical engineer of the C. P. R. telegraphs, is in the city on his annual tour of inspection of the company's western system. He will be joined in a few days by Mr. Kent, manager of the C. P. R. telegraphs, and will accompany him to the coast. Mr. Camp states that during the past year about 3,000 miles of new wire has been added to the company's lines in Canada, 2,000 miles of which have been strung in Western Canada.

## THE HAGUE ASSEMBLY.

**Finance Minister Presents Budget to States General.**

The Hague, Sept. 22.—The financial minister presented to the second chamber of states general today the budget for 1906, showing an estimated deficit of upwards of $4,400,000. The minister said he had not completed the details of his plan to restore the financial equilibrium, but in order temporarily to relieve the budget he proposed to place an additional 10 cents tax both on capital and income.

## MEANINGS OF COLORS.

**Their Old-Time Significance is Being Revived of Late.**

The language of flowers is almost ignored of late, as the maiden prefers to have flowers to correspond with her hair or complexion of her frocks, and is totally regardless of any hidden meaning in those sent to her by men. It is so usual a thing to have bouquets sent to girls by the young men of today that such a gift has scarcely the sentiment connected with it as of yore.

Still more important than the language of flowers was the meaning of colors. From time immemorial certain colors have been connected with certain events or ceremonies, just as today black signifies mourning with us and yellow is used by the Chinese for the same reason.

Among the ancients yellow was the emblem of glory and fortune, but now it has been gradually changed to stand for infidelity and misfortune; thus, in the Middle Ages, the doors of traitors were smeared with yokes of eggs.

Red represents fire, and stands therefore for passion, power and riches; so the rulers of men wore red mantles; the executioners and members of the Inquisition wore red, and so it also stands for cruelty and hardness. The maids of today, therefore, who don the fashionable red, had better see to it that their friends do not understand the meaning of the color.

Blue denotes fidelity, sweetness, tenderness and a spotless reputation, the direct opposite of the present meaning of yellow; therefore, blue is a most desirable color for the young girl, as is also white, which, being the result of the combination of the seven primitive colors, is the emblem of purity, candor, innocence, chastity, and is also indicative of power and divine wisdom.

Pink is the color of love, youth, pleasure and health, while green denotes hope and joy. Violet stands for faith; while orange, being the color of the god of marriage, Hymen, the brides of yesterday wore orange-colored veils, and were not allowed to pronounce their vows unless enveloped in the folds of this veil, or "flammeum," as it was termed. Orange also means divine inspiration and poetry, and was, therefore, the color of the muses. Purple, of course, has always stood for empire.

These are the meanings of the principal colors, but there are thousands of variations in tone and combinations which have only come to have meanings of their own through their resemblance to something, or through associations. Since the recent interest excited by the celebrated "emotional" gowns which created such an uproar last winter, there has been a decided revival of interest in color, both in its ancient meanings and in its effects upon human beings. We have learned that the paper on our walls may and probably does affect our temperaments; the color in our frocks is emblematic of the human emotions, and we hear that we should choose the shade of those frocks to counteract the effect of the weather. We know now either we may not in time be taking pigments as remedies for bodily ills? The doctors of the thirtieth century may restrict our diets by the colors of our foods!

## FRANCE AND VENEZUELA.

**Great Indignation Aroused in Paris Over Recent Events.**

Paris, Sept. 22.—The offensive attitude of Venezuela toward M. Taigny, the French charge d'affaires at Caracas, has aroused indignation in official quarters here. Although the country has not yet taken definite action, it was said in highest quarters that Premier Rouvier undoubtedly will demand that Venezuela disavow the offensive action and adopt a course conformed with usual courses of diplomatic intercourse. Venezuelan authorities are seeking to show that their action was directed against M. Taigny personally and not against the French government, but officials do not accept a distinction between M. Taigny's personal and official capacity. He has high standing at the foreign office, where he recently succeeded and aided Ambassador Cambon at Washington during the most delicate phases of the Spanish war negotiations. Therefore there is no intention here to permit Venezuela to make a respectable cat's paw of him. The official directly charged with handling Venezuelan questions explained the general status of the controversy as follows: Venezuela supports the closing out of French cable companies' inland stations on the ground of the decision of Venezuelan courts. France does not question the right of the courts, but maintains that the decision of the courts contained nothing authorizing the executive branch to seize and shut up cable stations. Moreover, only a day before shutting up all the land stations Venezuela gave assurances that General Violtina, the Venezuelan minister at Paris, would take steps to satisfactorily adjust the question. Therefore M. Taigny protested on the ground that the court's decision did not justify closing the stations. In making this protest he followed specific instructions from the foreign office. Therefore it is impossible to raise a personal issue. The subsequent course of France will depend upon Venezuela's reply. Inquiry makes it practically certain that Venezuela has placed orders at the Cruesot works for 8 field batteries and 4 mountain batteries, the latter consisting of four guns each.

The Temps this evening printed a leading article reflecting official sentiment on the subject. It is said that Taigny has been ordered to insist on Venezuela withdrawing her official refusal to deal with him. If this withdrawal is made and President Castro apologizes negotiations will continue. If Venezuela does not accede it will be unwise immediately to break off diplomatic relations by the withdrawal of M. Taigny, as this would leave French interests unprotected.

The best course would be for France and the United States to make a joint naval demonstration similar to that in which Great Britain, Germany and Italy took part.

## DISCUSS EPIDEMIC.

**Dawson Medical Men Trying to Discover Cause of Dysentery.**

A Dawson correspondent, writing under date of September 12, says: The medical fraternity of Dawson will meet with Governor McInnes in the governor's office at 10 o'clock tomorrow morning, to discuss the cause of the present epidemic of dysentery and other diseases in the city. The taking away of three little babes last week in one day and the fact that many others are hovering between life and death, and many adults who have been rugged have been dragged down with scarcely any notice and have been weakened, has impressed the commissioner with the fact that it is high time something strenuous should be done.

Nearly every possible source of disease has been suggested. Some think the flies are the cause of the epidemic; others argue water. Others say the decadent matter and the bad water and hot sun on the townsite have caused a miasma carrying germs that do the mischief. In some quarters it has been suggested that probably the meats consumed here have been washed in the preparation largely used outside to destroy the trace of tainted meats or other washes used by meat markets to keep away flies. Some say this is impossible, because babes have the complaint who do not eat meat. Some contradict the water theory by saying the water they drink they have boiled all through the summer. Some medical authorities have contended that boiling water does not kill all disease germs, and that distilling, filtering and the like should be the course to follow. In fact, the community is at its wits' ends on the question, and no consensus of opinion has been approached.

Some of the victims are greatly reduced. Constable Jacques of the barracks is a sample. He lost thirty pounds in the few days that the disease had him in its toils.

## HE KNEW A LADY.

Life.

A London cabman had brought suit against a woman for not paying the legal fare, and his constant remark throughout was, "She ain't a lady, she ain't."

"Do you know a lady when you see one?" asked the judge.

"I do, yer honor. Last week a lady gave me a sovr'n instead of a shilling, and I called: 'Beg pardon, madam, I've got a sovr'n instead of a shillin',' she shouts back: 'Well, old fool, keep the change and get drunk with it.' That's wot I call a lady!"

# R.R. Commissioner Visiting the City

**Judge Killam and Professor Mills Here to Enjoy Rest at Week-end.**

**Explain Matters Which Came Before Them at Sessions on Mainland.**

Judge A. C. Killam and Professor Mills, members of the transcontinental railway commission, arrived by the Princess Victoria from Vancouver last evening and are at the Hotel Driard. Judge Killam, in an interview with the Colonist, explained that they were not here in an official capacity, but having concluded their sittings at New Westminster and Vancouver, they had taken a run over for the purpose of spending the week end in Victoria and enjoying a couple of days' rest.

Referring to the work of the commission, His Honor said that perhaps the chief complaint before the commission had been what was claimed to be the unfairness to British Columbia in making rates on westward bound freight to British Columbia ports than to American ports on the Pacific coast.

"There has been," said he," no statement made to us orally by the railway companies, in which they defend their action. The written statement of the case, wherever it is, was sent to Ottawa before our departure, and we have consequently no knowledge of its plea. No decision was arrived at, however, and the matter will be subsequently dealt with on the basis of written communications.

"There was also a question with regard to carloads of different commodities such as cannot be carried in one car at carload rates. The Canadian Manufacturers' association had asked that such mixed loads should be allowed to rank at the lower rate, while the members of the boards of trade of Winnipeg, Vancouver and Victoria have objected to the change and with matters left as at present.

"W. J. Pendray's complaint was not fully specified, but the gist of it appeared to be that manufacturers and producers in Victoria and Vancouver are at a disadvantage in dealing with inland points, as compared with Winnipeg and other places. We have, however, not yet examined sufficiently into the matter to determine whether there was ground for the claim or not."

The matter that there had been most contest about was one between the C. P. R. and the V., W. & Y. railway, which he understood was a connection of the Great Northern line. The latter company had constructed a line along the water front, outside the lines of the C. P. R., and close to them, and seeks to have connection with the C. P. R. at a certain point. The C. P. R. objects to the latter being allowed to connect at the desired point and wish the connection to be effected further east, and they wish to restrain the V., W. & Y. from making its trunk line between these two points, so that they (the C. P. R.) may continue to have access to the wharves without the lines of the other company coming between. The commissioners examined the locality with our engineer and await his report before making a decision.

"We return to Vancouver on Sunday," concluded His Honor, and proceed thence to Nelson, where the next sitting of the commission will take place. The chief matter before us there will be in connection with Kaslo, where, it is alleged, a system of rates prevails which is unfair as compared with the rest of British Columbia."

## BIG FIRE IN CHARLESTON.

**Two Hundred Thousand Dollars Destroyed and Several Men Injured.**

Charleston, W. Va., Sept. 22.—A loss of $200,000 and serious injuries to a number of firemen resulted today from a fire in the six storey building and stock, also the adjoining building, occupied by the Charleston Natural Gas Supply Co., the Banner typewriter agency and the Christian Science hall. Noyes' china building and the Charleston City Flour Co. building were also burned. Four firemen on the roof of the Noyes building were carried down to the cellar with a mass of wreckage. All were rescued alive but were badly hurt.

## HON. PREFONTAINE EXPLAINS.

**Canada Will No Longer Submit to Yankee Poaching.**

Cleveland, Ohio, Sept. 22.—Raymond Prefontaine, Canadian minister of marine, with a party of Canadians was a visitor to the yards of the American Shipbuilding Company here today.

In an interview relative to the recent firing upon the American fish tugs by the Canadian cruiser, Minister Prefontaine said that if it were necessary to protect her fishing rights in the Great Lakes, Canada would build another cruiser and put it in patrol service. He said that Canada was determined to break up the practice of American fishermen poaching in Canadian waters.

"The fact that the fish seem to have a preference for Canadian waters is our good fortune," said the minister.

# Lumber and Oil Are in Demand

**Americans Lease and Purchase Large Lumbering Interests in B. C.**

**Recently Developed Oil Gusher Causes a Flurry in Other Concerns.**

From Our Own Correspondent.

Vancouver, Sept. 22.—The Balcom Shingle Company of Bellingham has leased the Chilliwack Shingle Company's mills on the Harrison river. The lease is with option to purchase. The Balcom Company manufactures shingles in a large way on the other side of the line. Mr. Balcom, senior member of the firm, is in the city enquiring as to labor and government regulations.

The fact that the big mills of W. C. Wells at Palliser, B. C., have been sold to the Dickenson-Goodman Company of Kansas City would indicate that the Americans have made up their minds that as the provincial government will not permit them to get our logs for manufacturing purposes on the other side that they must come here to manufacture them.

The stock of the Western Oil & Coal Company is not for sale. The stock is held very largely by Vancouver citizens. When the news came that a big gusher had been struck in one of the wells of the Rocky Mountain Coal Company the value of the local stock went up with a rush: in fact it is at the present time off the market, for every holder knew that the wells were on the same ground. The two wells nearest together of these companies are 300 feet apart and the well where the oil was struck is but 1,000 feet away. The gusher was struck at 1,400 feet and the well now being sunk by the local company is at a lower elevation in the same formation half a mile distant in almost a straight line east and west. As the elevation is lower it is expected the gusher will be struck sooner than it was in the flowing well. The locally owned well is down 970 feet. At 900 feet a good flow was struck and at 300 feet more the gusher is expected.

The Beaver Valley Oil Company, Ltd., has been incorporated in Vancouver to operate the Cariboo oil lands. There are five provisional directors: R. T. Ward, president of the Horsefly Hydraulic Company; Grier Satratt, manager of the New England Fish Company; A. P. Allan, capitalist; A. O. Walker, real estate; R. A. Corbett, of Corbett & Donald, and James Harvey, secretary.

Mr. Harvey has a bottle of petroleum that he has brought from the ground. It looks of good quality but has not yet been analyzed. Mr. Harvey has secured eight square miles for the company. The ground covers the discovery claims. Mr. Hobson, of the Cariboo hydraulic fame, staked a large area of ground, as there are indications of oil over a great section of country. When those who knew of the oil seepages saw Mr. Hobson staking they thought it was about time to do something and they staked the eight square miles acquired by Mr. Harvey, which is discovery ground.

Like nearly all such discoveries, the oil has been known of by the settlers and used for years. In the present case the miners over a stretch of 5,000 acres have for years been retorting the oil from the shale and using it to lubricate the machinery, and it was actually used for lubricating the hydraulic monitors. Still no one thought of its possible commercial value.

The shale is a greasy black and slivers stripped off from the surface will burn like a torch, while the thicker pieces are better than coal, according to settlers, for heating purposes, the surface rock making splendid fuel. Where wood was so plentiful, however, it was little used. A prospector going through the country first thought of the possibilities of putting the proposition on the market. He went to Ashcroft and asked for assistance to form a company. A syndicate offered him $5,000 and he found this was too little and abandoned the scheme. Mr. Harvey has now taken it up and has raised the capital already for the plant and will commence operations on the 1st of January. Ashcroft and Vancouver people are subscribing largely to the stock.

# CUSTOMS OFFICER'S RECENT MISFORTUNE

**George Maxwell Refused Landing at 'Frisco Is Coming to Victoria**

George Maxwell, a Canadian custom house officer at Victoria, B. C., contracted the disease of trachoma while on a visit to Australia recently, says the San Francisco Examiner of Wednesday. On his arrival on the steamer Sierra from New Zealand he was denied a landing on the report of the United States medical examiner and ordered deported to Australia. He had a through ticket to Vancouver, but the Pacific Coast Steamship Company would not take him, fearing that he would be denied a landing at Victoria. Yesterday afternoon Dr. Cummings, quarantine officer, received a despatch from American Consul Dudley at Vancouver stating that he held an order allowing Maxwell to land at Victoria. The steamship company accepted Maxwell on the condition that should he be denied a landing at Victoria the Oceanic Steamship Company would take him back on board the Sierra.

## THE HUNGARIAN CABINET.

**Expected That Coalition Government Will Be Formed Today.**

Buda Pest, Hungary, Sept. 22.—Audiences which coalition leaders will have of the King-Emperor tomorrow is regarded most hopefully and there is widespread expectation that compromise proposals which will be submitted by Count Andrassi, Frances Kossuth, Baron Banffy and Count Seichy will lead to a settlement enabling formation of a ministry and the restoration of administration recorder. Coalitionists appear prepared to demonstrate to King-Emperor their strong desire to meet views of crown on army questions by confirming their demands to a general proposition for development of Hungarian army in accordance with national spirit, without insisting on use of Hungarian as the language of command.