Fire Near Rat Portage

Three Hundred Thousand Dollars Damage in Little Town of Norman.

Millions of Feet of Lumber, Besides Steamers and Buildings Destroyed

Rat Portage, Nov. 28.—The most disastrous conflagration that has ever visited this district for years started about 3:30 this morning in the Rat Portage Lumber Company's lumber yard near Norman, and has been raging ever since, aided by a stiff wind from the South east. The fire started from a spark being blown into a pile of cedar behind the planing mill, and being fanned by the wind, soon got into the lumber piles and beyond the control of the fire appliances. At the present wiring 25,000,000 feet of lumber have gone up in smoke as well as Lemay's ship yard and six steamboats, two barges, eleven dwellings and one stable.

The steamer Rambler was hauled up on the slip for the winter, and would have been burned had not Capt. Kendal hitched a line to her propeller, and with her sister boat, the Clipper, pulled her back into the water with the cabin burning, which was soon extinguished with the Clipper's hose.

The boats burned were the Daystar, belonging to the Presbyterian Indian mission, valued at $600; Phantom, owned by Capt. Lewis, valued at $2,000; Kenina, owned by L. R. MacKay, valued at $2,000; Spray, owned by B. Knight, valued at $1,000; Pearl, owned by Gardner & Co., valued at $700; Midge, owned by the Dominion Fish Co., valued at $500. There is no insurance on the steamboats.

Lemay's house and shipyard are a total loss. They are insured in the Hartford Insurance Co.

The other buildings consumed are: Mr. L. Demarais, loss $2,000; house owned by H. Snider, occupied by J. Easterbrook, loss $1,000; E. L. Huereux, $700; S. Lavary, $200. The balance were vacant houses; insurance small.

The lumber company's insurance is said to be from $8 to $10 per thousand. From present appearances it would remind one of the Hull fire, a roaring mass of flames shooting skyward and across the streets, licking up everything in its way. Women and children hurried away to places of safety. Drayloads of household goods were going in every direction, and half-dazed multitudes of men endeavored to head off the devouring elements.

Up to midnight there has been no further damage. If the wind changes tonight the mill and more lumber piles may go, but a close watch is being kept. The total loss is estimated at $300,000.

CHURCH HAD NARROW ESCAPE

Fire In First Presbyterian Is Checked By the Fire Brigade.

The Fire brigade were called out about 12:45 this morning to a fire in the First Presbyterian church, on the corner of Blanchard and Pandora avenue. Mr. B. Pettingill first noticed dense volumes of smoke pouring from the roof of the church, and promptly turned in an alarm to the Central fire hall. When the engines arrived on the spot nothing could be seen but smoke. Chief Watson got into the building through a window on Farquhar street, having the patent Vagen-bader mask lately purchased, this being the first fire in which it had been tried. It proved a perfect success, enabling the chief to go straight up to the fire with the hose and quickly extinguish it, before much damage was done.

The fire started in a small dressing room between the vestry and the kitchen. There was a small fire smouldering in the grate in the vestry, but not near the spot where the fire broke out—the dividing partition between the kitchen and dressing room. The cause of the fire was therefore a mystery to the firemen, though they supposed it had its origin in the careless throwing of a match or a lighted cigarette or cigar.

A meeting had been held in the vestry early in the evening, and it is probable that the fire smouldered unobserved for several hours.

SCORES OF USES.

While Dr. Chase's Ointment is best known on account of its wonderful control over eczema, salt rheum and piles, it is found to be in almost daily demand in many homes as a cure for chilblains, chafing, pimples, sunburn, burns, scalds, and each and every form of itching, irritated or inflamed skin. It is invaluable in every home and as a soothing and healing application knows no equal.

PAINS IN THE SMALL OF THE BACK

Bad Digestion and Racking Headaches —Cure Was Brought About by

Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills.

"Pains in the small of the back" is the way hosts of people describe their sufferings, not knowing that the pains are in reality in the kidneys. Pains in the back, weak back, lame back, backache—these are the first indications of kidney trouble. They are the warning which nature gives you. If you heed at once you can be cured. Neglect will soon put you at the mercy of the most painful and fatal of diseases.

Women as well as men have kidney disease, and may well feel anxious when the kidney pains make themselves felt in the small of the back.

Because Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills give you prompt relief from backache it is well worth your while to take them. But they do more than this. They regulate and invigorate the action of the kidneys, and insure a return to health of these important organs.

Mrs. J. Larter, 123 Cross street, Charlottetown, P. E. I., and whose husband is a contractor, states:—"I had suffered a great deal with pains in the small of my back, my digestion was bad and I was frequently troubled with spells of racking headache. I have been entirely cured of these distressing symptoms by the use of Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills, and find that my general health is greatly improved since I have been using this preparation.

"I can also testify to the merit of Dr. Chase's Syrup of Linseed and Turpentine, as I was cured of a severe attack of bronchitis by the use of this remedy."

Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills, 25 cents a box, at all dealers, or Edmanson, Bates & Co., Toronto.

BOUNDARY ORE SHIPMENTS

Six Big Mines Keep Up Their Record For the Week.

Phoenix, Nov. 28.—(Special)—Ore shipments from the mines of the Boundary for the past week have been confined, as for some months past, to the six leading properties, and show an excellent output, notwithstanding the fact that the Granby smelter has not yet been enabled to blow in its two additional furnaces. The following mines sent out the respective amounts of ore:

Granby mines, to Granby smelter at Grand Forks, 4,020 tons.

Snowshoe to Sunset and Greenwood smelters, 1,410 tons.

Mother Lode, to Greenwood smelter, 4,320 tons.

B. C. Mine, to Greenwood smelter, 660 tons.

Sunset mine, to Sunset smelter, 500 tons.

Emma mine, to Nelson smelter, 680 tons.

Total for the week, 12,200 tons.

Total for the year to date, 445,655 tons.

The Granby smelter treated 5,190 tons this week, making a total for the year of 260,645 tons.

MYSTIC SHRINERS.

Important Ceremony to take Place Here Next Month.

A great deal of interest is being taken in the institution of the first temple of the Mystic Shriners in British Columbia, which takes place in this city on December 12. There will be a large number of Shriners visit Victoria for the occasion, and the Seattle Post-Intelligencer referring to the subject, says:

"Mystic Shriners of Seattle and Tacoma will go to Victoria on December 12 to institute the first shrine in British Columbia. The steamer Majestic has been chartered for the trip, and it is expected a large number of Shriners, not only members of Afifi Temple, but visitors from other lodges, will be among the excursionists.

"The action of the order in installing the first shrine at Victoria probably means that city will be the headquarters for British Columbia Shriners for years to come. Unless important reasons make it necessary it is not likely more than one shrine will be had in British Columbia.

"A big delegation of Seattle Shriners will go to Tacoma tonight to attend the meeting to be held in Masonic Temple. This will be the last before the excursion to Victoria, and it is probable the route over the desert will be mapped out for the novices of the British Columbia district.

"It is stated there are many novices awaiting the coming of the Shriners before undertaking the journey across the burning sands. They have been given whispered stories of the mysteries of the journey and are anxious to cross the plains and reach the oasis beyond.

"There are a number of Shriners in British Columbia at present, but they belong to established temples. Those who are planning to make the trip expect to be joined by their brothers and the entire number will join in giving instructions to the new members. It is expected the excursion will be one of the most enjoyable undertaken by the Masonic order for years."

PERSONALS.

Arrivals at the Driard: H. I. Jerome, San Francisco; Mrs. M. T. Burwell, W. T. Burwell, jr.; D. Murphy and wife, Ashcroft; J. C. Colpage, Philadelphia; Edward Lewis, Vancouver.

Fletcher T. Hamshaw, M. E., New York, is registered at the Dominion. Mr. Hamshaw has lately returned from Atlin, where he completed negotiations for the leases on McKee creek, belonging to the Weare Syndicate. The new proprietors are New York men, who will proceed to work the ground quite extensively as soon as spring opens.

THE UNCURBED KIRBY.

The British Columbia Mining Exchange and Investor's Guide, has the following to say of Edmund H. Kirby:

A gentleman who has, during the past few weeks, been coming in for a large quantity of verbal brick-bats, hurled at his head from all quarters of this long-suffering province, is Mr. Edmund B. Kirby, manager of the Centre Star and War Eagle mines and several other things. This is because, at the meeting of the Canadian Mining Institute at Nelson on the 10th of September last, Mr. Kirby forgot where he was and proceeded to unload on the stricken scientists there present a somewhat hastily prepared political pamphlet, bearing the strife-inviting title of "The Influence of Government on Mining."

There are no adequate reports on file to testify to the feelings of Mr. Kirby's audience on this notable occasion. The effusion with the alluring head-piece turned out to be one of those scholarly (?) productions which have done so much in the past to attract outside capital to this province—a speech composed in about equal parts of virulent attacks on the local government (that it was the Dunsmuir government didn't affect the question at all; any other old government would serve a man of the speaker's class just as well), unmanly whining, culpable ignorance, and a yet more culpable disparagement of the province at large and its mines in particular.

The somewhat prominent position into which—we are fain to believe—circumstances, rather than his own ability, have pitchforked Mr. Kirby, leaves him absolutely destitute of any valid excuse for a rhetorical outburst of this kind. That the two per cent tax had raised his wrath does not in the smallest degree extenuate the methods he adopted for discharging his spleen. The two per cent tax does undoubtedly bear heavily on certain grades of mines. It is not a perfect way of securing a revenue for the province—not for the government, by the way, Mr. Kirby. Few things are perfect in this world of ours—except the brazen effrontery of some amateur politicians. But a method of taxation which shall distribute the burden more fairly is being carefully sought by officers, and no one knows this better than Mr. Kirby did when he proceeded, for reasons best known to himself, to turn the meeting of the Canadian Mining Institute into an arena for stump oratory and plain ruin prophecy.

To aggravate his original fault, Mr. Kirby fell so consumedly in love with his rhetorical and hysterical bantling that he proceeded to publish it in full in various journals, to get himself patted on the back in the columns of our esteemed contemporary, the Rossland Miner, for his "strong and well-thought-out denunciation," and to give such publicity in other ways to his unwarrantable bid for notoriety as to still further increase the disfavor which such attacks of oratorical hysteria and misrepresentation by public and would-be public men have already brought upon British Columbia in the eyes of the outside world.

It has been suggested that Mr. Kirby's object in first making, and then securing the wide publication of his notorious effusion was to prepare the public for his entry at no distant date, into the already somewhat over-crowded arena of provincial politics. We think, however, that this is an injustice to Mr. Kirby; but, should we be wrong in this, we should like to call his attention to the horrible warning contained in the fate of an ambitious gentleman in Victoria who played the same game two or three years ago. It was thusly: The ambitious gentleman conceived the idea that the public wanted him. He was quite wrong, but there is no manner of doubt that he wanted the public. So he made certain arrangements with an official of the Dominion government who suffered from a lack of apprehension of his duties, and then wrote a two-column open letter to the great public of British Columbia. It was a much worse letter than Mr. Kirby's speech, being longer, more ignorant, more presumptuous and quite as ill-advised. To those who knew the writer thereof, it was an interesting study in the symptomatology of megalocephalitis.

Having published his open letter, the ambitious gentleman sat down to await developments. These arrived with appalling suddenness. The Dominion government, with commendable promptitude, cut off its servant's official head for indulging in plots calculated to disturb the peace of the land; and the ambitious gentleman, before he had fully recovered from the shock of his colleague's fate, was himself fired from his job and cast into outer darkness. This, Mr. Kirby, is what the temperance people call a Horrible Example.

But a careful perusal of Mr. Kirby's speech inclines us to believe that it is rather the outcome of a well-nigh criminal ignorance and a blind conceit than any political ambition. Otherwise he must have known that his remarks on being republished elsewhere, were bound to aggrevate the very evils he deplored. The stranger, reading his speech, would conclude that not only the mining industry, but the whole of British Columbia, was on its last legs. The case is very much the other way. The mineral output of the province is steadily increasing. Right in Rossland, Mr. Kirby's own stamping ground, the output of ore for the last ten months has far exceeded the output of the whole twelve months of 1901. Why did not Mr. Kirby mention this?

Mr. Kirby says in effect that there is no hope for British Columbia and that it is no good talking. Then why on earth did he talk? And, being on the talk, why on earth couldn't he confine himself to the truth?

Mr. Kirby puts a sugar-plum at the end of his diatribe by saying that he has great faith in British Columbia. But it is works that are wanted, just now, Mr. Kirby, not faith. And deeds, not words.

There was a sufficient amount of truth in Mr. Kirby's speech to make it one of those lies which are proverbially the hardest to fight. He took the mineral tax—an undoubted hardship and a grievance in some quarters, but one which will soon be satisfactorily arranged—and he made of it an opas-tree which overshadows and blights the whole province. He howls for reform, yet makes no suggestion as to what shape that reform should take unless he means that the owner of a mine should pay no taxes at all; which is ridiculous. He prates glibly on his faith and belief in British Columbia, yet he lets loose on the financial world a tissue of skilfully woven falsehoods and exaggerations which, but for the prompt denial they have received, and the ample evidence at hand of their nefarious character, would block every investor and every avenue of capital against this province for all time. What can you do with a man like that?

Our kindest advice to Mr. Kirby is to retire gracefully into that inviolate privacy of which an all-seeing Providence has so amply qualified him to be an ornament. In the days of the prophet Jeremiah, when it was fashionable for persons who did not want to work to attract the attention of the authorities by loud lamentations and pourtrayings of evil, Edmund B. Kirby would have been a shining mark. But what British Columbia just now is men who can do, not men who can talk. We have enough talkers already, without drawing recruits from the ranks of unsuccessful mine-managers or notoriety-hunting journalists. Every week a shrinkage returns leave the lie to the sorrowful Kirby. Rome was not built in a day, and British Columbia's development is undoubtedly more than a trifle slow; but she is developing, none the less, and will continue to do in spite of all the criminal and calumniating falsehoods in which persons of the Kirby type so much delight.

Now we have let Mr. Kirby down very easily in the above remarks, considering what we might have said of him and his supporters—for he has a certain following, as such people always will. But any more falsehoods about this province will get Mr. Kirby into a very sad mess. He can kick about the mineral tax all he likes—to a certain extent he is justified there—but neither he nor any other man shall utter or publish such a wholesale and mendacious running down of the province, its resources and its people as he did last September without receiving the most delicate attentions which it is the power of the B. C. Mining Exchange to bestow.

THE METRIC SYSTEM.

The Hon. Mr. Bernier Believes in Its Adoption!

From Montreal Witness.

The Hon. M. E. Bernier, Minister of Inland Revenue, since taking office, has given considerable attention to the spread of information regarding the metric system of weights and measures. He said today: I am satisfied that the metric system is infinitely superior to that at present in vogue here, and as long as I occupy this portfolio I will do what I can to educate public sentiment in regard to its advantages. I have been distributing in high schools, charts and material to illustrate the plan on which the metric system is based, and at present I am in correspondence with the Quebec authorities to have the distribution extended to the common schools. Later I will bring the matter before the attention of the Ontario Government too.

"The Imperial Conference in London last summer adopted, as you know, a resolution in favor of the metric system. It is permissible in Canada, the United Kingdom and the United States to make contracts involving its use, and I have reason to believe that at the next congress in Washington a bill will be pressed by prominent men to wipe out the old order of measurement and bring the metric plan to be the law of the land. In Canada we will be content to move slowly, as the public is educated to the convenience that would result from the employment of the superior mode of calculating weight, bulk and distance."

Princess Royal Group of Claims

Strong, Well Defined Ledges Carrying Wonderfully High Values.

Assays and Smelter Tests Run From $19 to $120 Per Ton.

A gentleman who recently returned from a visit to Princess Royal Island gives the following description of the Princess Royal group of mines:

This group consists of five claims, each about 50 acres, or 250 acres in all. The property is situated on Princess Royal Island, and is about six miles distant from sale water. There is a good pack trail about six miles in length, over which the ore is packed at a cost today of $8 per ton. Freight from the shore to the smelter is $3, smelter charges $4 per ton, making a ttoal of $15 per ton from the time it leaves the mine.

There are two ledges running the entire length of the property, one of which is four feet wide, and which has ben exploited by crosscuts, etc., shows good ore for a distance of 350 feet on the surface and assays run from $60 per ton upwards. The work on this ledge consists of a shaft 60 feet deep and two drifts, one 62 feet and the other 30 feet.

About 60 tons of ore have already been shipped from these ledges to the smelter and have yielded from $95 to $125 to the ton, the values being principally in gold. This rich ore has never been less than 20 inches wide, and in places is four feet.

The other ledge, which traverses the four feet ledge and runs parallel to it. Work has been done along this ledge for a distance of 700 feet of crosscuts, drifts, etc. This second ledge is from 7 to 9 feet wide and assays from $16 to $100 per ton, the values in this ledge being also chiefly gold. On the second ledge there are open crosscuts an incline shaft 30 feet deep, a vertical shaft 80 feet deep, and one tunnel 60 feet in length and another tunnel 350 feet.

All these workings are in ore which so far as the work done is concerned, gives every prospect of permanency.

The following shipments have been made from the property: On the 10th of July a shipment of 20 tons was made to the smelter, which assayed 5.19 oz. gold, .91 oz. silver and 1.39 per cent. copper. At that time the smelter allowed $20 for gold less 5 per cent., 52½ cents less 5 per cent. for silver, and 11¾ cents per pound for copper, less 5 per cent. and also made a treatment charge of $5 per ton. Even at these figures the shipment netted $95.83 a ton.

On the 15th of September two shipments were made, one of 27,900-lbs.,—the gold value in this being 6.4 oz., copper 3.7 per cent. At the same time a shipment of 6,700-lbs., none of which was sorted, and which represented the run of the ore in the vein, was made to the smelter, and produced $93.20 a ton—the assay value being 4.8 oz. of gold, 2.1 oz. silver, 2.08 per cent. copper.

Since the 15th of September, two other shipments have been made, one of 10 tons, which netted $110 a ton, and another of 16 tons, the returns of which are not yet to hand; but the assay values indicate that this shipment will run over $100 a ton.

These are the only shipments which have been made to date, and have all been made from the first vein.

The property has been examined by a competent English engineer, who pronounces it to be valuable, and whose assays average from $19 to $120. His sampling covered all the exposures in both veins. Other examinations have been made and they have been highly satisfactory.

The Tarsus Mining company of Glasgow, Scotland, have taken a working bond on the property, and they have a force of miners at work pushing development as fast as possible.

Victoria the Pictutesque

Handsome Illustrated Book Just Published By the Tourist Association.

Splendid Specimen of Locar Artistic Skill and Clever Compilation.

The Tourist association has just published a handsome book of 32 pages, entitled "Picturesque Victoria," which is by all odds the finest specimen of lithographic, photo-engraving and printing ever turned out in the city. The cover, lithographed in three colors, is at once striking and harmonious, depicting at a glance some of the chief attractions of the city. On the back cover is a map showing Victoria's position with regard to the Western portions of the continent and the various railway and steamship lines serving the city. The book is designed not only to set forth the scenic beauties of the city and its surroundings, but also to impress upon the reader Victoria's importance as a commercial, mining, industrial and shipping centre, and special attention is given to Vancouver Island as a resort for anglers and hunters. The evolution of the transportation service is shown very effectively through pictures of the steamer Beaver, one of the C. P. R. Empresses and the new and magnificent steamer Princess Victoria. The homes of Victoria are fittingly described and illustrated, public buildings, schools and churches are given due prominence, and then the enchanting scenery in and about the city is attractively brought to the reader's notice. A brief chapter on field sports and amusements, fishing, shooting and yachting splendidly illustrated appeals to lovers of outdoor life. Particular mention is made of the numerous industries in and tributary to Victoria, and the book closes with information regarding hotel accommodation and other matters of interest to visitors, including a summary of the game laws of British Columbia.

Taking it all in all the book is a distinctly creditable production, a tribute to the taste and industry of Mr. Herbert Cuthbert, who compiled it. The judicious arrangement of the reading matter and the pictures, through which they are placed side by side, is in itself no small achievement in bookmaking, while the appropriateness of the illustrations and their artistic settings are admirable and speak well for Mr. Cuthbert's judgment and skill.

The half-tone illustrations used in the book are the work of the British Columbia Photo-Engraving company, and they are equal to anything that could be produced in the East. The lithographing and printing were done by the Colonist Printing & Publishing company, and testify to the capabilities of that establishment.

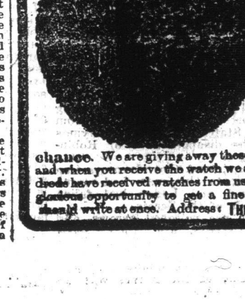
"Picturesque Victoria" contains, as an insert a map of the city and suburbs, specially prepared for the Tourist association.

WINTER TOURISTS.

A lady and gentleman from Manitoba, who visited the Tourist association bureau yesterday, expressed the opinion that many hundreds from that province could be induced to visit Victoria during the winter months if the climatic conditions and scenic beauties were more universally known. The lady said she was surprised at the size and excellence of the retail stores of Victoria, and the fine classes of goods kept in stock. Many Manitobans go East every winter and leave large sums of money in Eastern cities for dry goods, millinery, etc., and she stated that the prices here were very little if any higher than in Winnipeg, Toronto, or Montreal.

The Tourist association is in communication with the railway companies in an effort to secure special winter excursion rates and the Territories, similar to those which the roads are issuing to the Eastern provinces. The C. P. R. has expressed a willingness to accede to this request, but is deterred by the action of the G. N. and N. P., which, so far, have declined to make any concession.

HANDSOME WATCH FREE



A Solid Gold Ladies' or Gents' watch costs from $25 to $50. Don't throw your money away. If you want a Watch that will equal for time any Solid Gold Watch made, send us your name and address at once and agree to sell only 9 boxes of our famous Vegetable New Life Pills at 25c. a box. A grand remedy for all impure and weak conditions of the blood, Indigestion, Stomach Trouble, Constipation, Weakness and Nervous Disorders, and for Female Irregularities they are unequalled. A grand tonic and life builder. These are our regular 50 cent size; they are easy to sell. Don't miss the chance of your life. Send us your order and we will send the nine boxes by mail, when sold you send us the money ($2.25) and we will send you the WATCH with A GUARANTEE FOR 20 YEARS the same day money is received. A rare chance. We are giving away these watches to quickly introduce our grand remedy, and when you receive the watch we ask you to please show it to your friends. Hundreds have received watches from us and are more than delighted with them. This is a glorious opportunity to get a fine Watch without paying a cent for it, and you should write at once. Address THE NEW LIFE REMEDY CO., DEPT. 428 TORONTO, ONT.

Along the Waterfront

Benjamin F. Packard Puts Into Montevideo With Heated Cargo.

Liners For the Orient—Queen is Due—Amasis Arrives.

The American ship Benjamin J. Packard, from Norfolk, Vermont, for Honolulu, with a cargo of coal, has put into Montevideo with her cargo heated. The news of her distress was given in despatches just received from the Uruguayan port. The Benjamin J. Packard had a narrow escape from going ashore on the rocks off the Dallas Road not far from the outer docks when she was last in these waters. It was during the heavy gale of Christmas night last year. The Benjamin J. Packard had arrived in the Royal Roads from Honolulu the night before, together with the ships Santa Clara and Bankburn, the latter coming for salmon. When the morning of the 26th dawned, it was found that all three had dragged their anchors, the Benjamin J. Packard being within a stone's throw of the rocks off Dallas road, and inside the Brotchie Ledge beacon, and the ship Santa Clara was off Trial Island, holding by one anchor, while Capt. Capt. Wyllie was looking in vain for the Bankburn, and until 24 hours later could not learn anything regarding her, when she was found to be lying off the Coast of San Juan Island, just holding. The Benjamin J. Packard and Bankburn were towed from their dangerous positions to safety, but when the Santa Clara lifted her anchor, as the tug Mystery took hold on December 26, she went ashore on Trial Island, and a case is now pending on that account in the Victoria courts, being set for trial on Tuesday next.

FOR THE ORIENT.

Many Liners Expected During Early Part of Next Week.

Steamer Empress of China, of the C. P. R. line, will sail from the outer docks on Monday night, or early Tuesday morning, for the Orient, with a large complement of passengers, including the Crown Prince of Siam and his party, with whom will be Mr. George Denny, formerly city editor of the Colonist, and now of the Associated Press, who has been touring with the party. He is en route to Japan to represent the newsgathering association in Mikado-land.

The Japanese liner Kaga Maru, Capt. Eckstrand, is due from the Orient on Tuesday, and the steamer Tosa Maru, now loading cargo at Smith's Cove, is to sail from the outer docks on Tuesday for Yokohama and the usual ports of China and Japan.

Steamer Yangtse, of the China Mutual line, is due at the outer docks on Monday from the Orient.

OKANAGAN LAKE.

Promising Group of Claims Located — Splendid Surface Showings.

A most promising group of mineral claims has recently been located on the west side of Okanagan lake by Jas. Hamilton and A. W. Birnie. Samples of the ore may be seen at this office, and we are convinced from what we can learn that the property is a most valuable one. It is called the Gale group, and is situated between Six-Mile creek and Siwash creek, about two and a half miles from the lake. A gang of men have been at work on the property for the past few weeks, and have sunk a considerable depth on a ledge, which now extends over twenty feet across without walls having yet been reached. No better surface showing has yet come to our notice with this class of ore, which assays 6 per cent in copper, and gives indications of improving with depth. There is a small lake on the claim which would furnish water power for working purposes, and its location close to Okanagan lake, makes the question of transportation one easily solved. We would be glad to see this matter looked into by mining capitalists as we believe that it will repay investigation.—Vernon News.

All Claims To Be Paid

Terminal Railway Deposits Check For Full Settlement With the Bank.

J. J. Hill of Great Northern Explains Extent of His Co-operation.

When next the City Council meets for the discussion of Victoria Terminal railway matters and the extension of time which is asked for in carrying out the terms of the original contract entered into in May, 1900, notification will be given that a certified check for the sum of $9,110 in full settlement of the claims for damages has been deposited with the manager of the Canadian Bank of Commerce.

At the recent conference, which was held in the City hall looking to an adjustment of terms upon which an agreement by-law could be presented to the city, His Worship the Mayor and Ald Kinsman insisted that it ought to be at once stipulated before negotiations proceeded further that all the claims which have been preferred against the city for damages by citizens who claim a loss of value in property owing to the bringing of the railway into the city, should be paid at an early date.

Mr. A. E. Wood, speaking for the railway delegation present at the meeting, said his company was perfectly willing to guarantee an immediate payment of the claims once an agreement had been reached with the Council regarding the terms of the by-law, and the endorsement of the latter by the ratepayers of the city. Following up such a statement, and to indicate the absolute bona fides of the company in the matter, the following letter was forwarded by Mr. Woods to the Canadian Bank of Commerce:

To the Manager of the Bank of Commerce, Victoria:

Dear Sir,—I herewith enclose you my certified cheque for the sum of $9,110.00, a by-law now in course of preparation for the Corporation of the City of Victoria, in amendment of the Victoria Terminal Railway By-law of 1900, 326, and the agreement made by the said corporation under the said by-law, is finally passed by the said corporation.

The proceeds of the said cheque are thereupon to be paid by you in paying the persons having claims against the Victoria Terminal Railway and Ferry Company, according to the schedule attached hereto and leaving with you releases of their claims against the said Victoria Terminal Railway and Ferry Company, duly endorsed as security for payment by Thornton Fell, of the firm of Fell & Gregory, the solicitor for the said company.

A. E. WOOD.

Dated at Victoria, B. C., 28th Nov., 1902.

Mr. Wood explains in connection with the adverse comment which has been made respecting the company's action in settling one claim and neglecting attending to the others, that the claim for $300 was presented by one of the parties to the controversy and settled. Similar action was to be at once taken with the object of satisfying the other claimants, when a dispute arose over the question of additional expenses. The company would not stand to be held up for what it considered too much, when it had no guarantee of an agreement being arrived at with the city; so the payment of the major portion of the additional claims was deferred. Now, however, the depositing of the certified check with the Canadian Bank of Commerce for the full amount settles all questions of the bona fides of the company in the matter.

THE GREAT NORTHERN.

In connection with the proposal of the railway people that the extension of time asked for should be granted to the Victoria Terminal company, the following letter from J. J. Hill, president of the Great Northern Railway company, to A. Guthrie, dated St. Paul, November 6, is full of interest:

Dear Sir,—In answer to your question as to this company's business to and from the city of Victoria, I beg to say that as soon as your line (the Victoria Terminal Company) is in a position to connect with ours at South Westminster or some other convenient point, we are ready to handle all our business over your line.

In this it should be understood that the business will be handled with promptness and dispatch in every way, and that your facilities will be such as to ensure this.

J. J. HILL.

Mr. Wood says that he does not think that any other construction can be placed upon the letter than that J. J. Hill is prepared to make Victoria a terminal point of his system as far as is possible.

CUBAN POLITICS.

Cabinet Minister Unexpectedly Resigns His Position.

Havana, Nov. 28.—At a special meeting of the Cabinet, presided over by President Palma, it was unanimously decided to accept the resignation of the secretary of the government, Tamayo; secretary of instruction Yero, assuming the duties of the vacant position. The fact that President Palma did not request Tamayo to render his resignation, and it was not expected by the Nationalist party, which has hitherto been in the front of the Cuban politics. The Republicans are jubilant at the practical removal of the President of the Nationalist party from the most important Cabinet position and claim that this step means the breaking up of the party.

100 men's overcoats, left from last season, half price for cash. B. Williams & Co.

MOUNT SICKER.

Deer Reported Plentiful in the District.

Mount Sicker, Nov. 28.—(Special.)—It is reported that Mr. G. Fagan is about to rent his building to parties who contemplate opening a general store.

Deer are very plentiful on Mount Brenton, and bucks weighing nearly 200 pounds, with six pronged horns, seem to be as plentiful as the smaller kinds.

The weather is beginning to get cold, and the inhabitants fear a very severe winter with any amount of snow.

The new school is in charge of Dr. Hands, and he seems to be very capable of keeping the youngsters in their places, which was no very easy task to undertake.

PRESS COMMENTS.

Mr. Dennis Murphy's decision to enter the cabinet of Premier Prior will, we believe, be very satisfactory to his constituency in general. With Messrs. Prentice and Murphy in the cabinet it will be quite possible for Yale, Cariboo and Lillooet to obtain its share of public attention in the way of roads, bridges and other improvements. Mr. Murphy is a man of ability and integrity, and without doubt he studied the situation well before accepting a portfolio. He has a splendid law practice at Ashcroft, which he has, during his residence of the past five years built up. It is a sacrifice for him pecuniarily to accept a position in the cabinet. He can, however, do good service, and will certainly add very materially to the strength of the newly organized government.—Vancouver Ledger.

20 dozen wool fleced underwear, $1.00 per suit. B. Williams & Co.

RESERVE.

Notice is hereby given that all the unappropriated Crown lands situated within the boundaries of the following areas are hereby reserved from pre-emption, sale or other disposition, excepting under the provisions of the mining laws of the Province, for two years from the date hereof, pursuant to the provisions of sub-section (5) of section 41 of the "Land Act," as amended by section 6 of the "Land Act Amendment Act, 1901," to enable The Bella Coola Pulp and Paper Company to select therefrom timber limits for wood pulp and paper manufacturing purposes, as provided by an agreement bearing date the 5th day of November, 1902, viz:—

1. The entire valley of the Bella Coola and all side valleys, including the Ne-cleet-sconney.

2. Lands in the Noos Creek Valley for a distance of eight (8) miles, taking the full width of the valley, estimated at one-half (½) a mile.

3. Starting at a post on the easterly side of South Bentinck Arm, one and one-half (1½) miles, more or less, southerly of the point at the easterly side of entrance, thence running in a northeasterly direction four (4) miles, more or less, to point of intersection of shore on southerly side of North Bentinck Arm, and bounded on all other sides by the shore line of North Bentinck Arm and South Bentinck Arm.

4. Starting at a post on the point on the easterly side of South Bentinck Arm, one (1) mile, more or less, northerly of King Kitlat Island; thence one and one-half (1½) miles along the shore in a northerly direction, and extending one-quarter (¼) of a mile wide inland.

5. A parcel of land extending northwesterly along the shore of South Bentinck Arm for one-half (½) mile, more or less, to the head of South-mon Cove, taking one-eighth (⅛) of a mile wide inland. From the head of South-mon Cove its westerly line follows one-quarter (¼) mile from the shore line of South Bentinck Arm; thence northerly three (3) miles, more or less, to a point opposite the northerly end of King Kitlat Island, and extends one (1) mile wide inland.

6. Starting from a post on the northerly side of the Noek River, one half (½) mile, more or less, from the mouth, take a strip one-half (½) mile wide on the northerly side of the river, for two (2) miles, more or less, to the junction of the Snostelee and the Noek; from that point take the entire valley of the Noek for a distance of ten (10) miles up, estimated at one-half (½) mile wide.

7. Starting from a post on the easterly side of Asse-ek Bay, one (1) mile, more or less, southerly of the Taillo Indian Reserve, following the timber line along the shore southerly to the valley of the Asse-ek Creek, one and one-half (1½) miles, more or less, taking one-quarter (¼) mile wide inland; from this point to the westerly side of the valley, three-quarters (¾) of a mile, more or less, taking one (1) mile wide (up the valley); thence one and one-half (1½) miles, more or less, northerly along the timber line, following the westerly shore of Asse-ek Bay to a point one-half (½) mile southerly of Garron Creek, and extending one-quarter (¼) mile wide inland; thence three-quarters (¾) of a mile along the timber line, near the shore, and one-half (½) mile wide inland.

(8) Starting at a point on the westerly shore of the South Bentinck Arm, five (5) miles, more or less, northerly of the Indian village of Taillo, following the low swale direction, to a point in a southerly direction, to a point where the swale corners at the Arm again, a distance of two (2) miles, more or less, and taking one (1) mile wide.

9. Starting from a post on the westerly side of South Bentinck Arm, four (4) miles, more or less, southeasterly of the Hot Springs; thence southerly one-quarter (¼) of a mile along the shore line to the northerly side of the big slide and one-half (½) mile wide inland.

10. Starting at a post on the westerly side of South Bentinck Arm, near the Hot Springs; thence one-half (½) mile northerly along the shore line, and one and one-half (1½) miles, more or less, southerly along the line of green timber, near the shore line, to a point one-half (½) mile southerly of Istess Creek, and taking one-eighth (⅛) of a mile wide inland.

11. Starting at a post on the point on the westerly side of the entrance to South Bentinck Arm, following the shore line for two (2) miles, more or less, to Noos Cla, a point one-quarter (¼) of a mile more or less, on the southerly side of the big slide, taking one-quarter (¼) of a mile inland.

12. Starting at the mouth of Gtchsk Creek, take the full width of the valley, estimated at one-quarter (¼) mile wide, for one-half (½) mile up the creek.

13. Starting at a point at the head of the Nu-i-ce-ka Bay, take one-eighth (⅛) of a mile on each side of post, for a distance of one-quarter (¼) of a mile inland in a southerly direction.

14. Starting at a post on the westerly side of How Yet Bay, eight (8) miles, more or less, westerly of Gtchsk Point; take one-eighth (⅛) mile, more or less, easterly to easterly side of valley of How Yet Creek, and extending one-half (½) mile up the valley to the south.

15. Starting from a post on the northerly shore of Deans Canal one-half (½) mile, more or less, westerly of Setskwa Creek, it takes the entire valley of the Setskwa, with all the side valleys included.

16. Starting from a point on the northerly side of the Salmon River, immediately below the canyon and one and one-half (1½) miles, more or less, from the mouth, take fifty (50) miles up the river, including the main valley and all the side valleys below the fifty (50) mile point.

17. Takes the entire valley of the Skoquelks, estimated at ten (10) miles long by one-half (½) mile wide.

18. Starting from a post near the head of Ketak Bay, four (4) miles, more or less, northerly of Sil-tem-te-mot Point, extending two (2) miles southerly along the shore line and one-half (½) mile wide.

19. Starting at a post at the mouth of Na-kwa-ka Creek, one (1) mile, more or less, northerly of Koo-hoos Point, takes one-quarter (¼) mile on each side of creek for a distance of one (1) mile inland.

20. Starting from a point on the Sessqo Seiz Creek four (4) miles, more or less, westerly of Labouchere Channel, on Burke Channel, extending one-half (½) mile westerly, and one-half (½) mile easterly, and one-half (½) mile wide northerly.

21. Starting from a post on the northerly side of the Quatna Creek, near the mouth, thence one and one-half (1½) miles, more or less, along the shore line in a north-westerly direction to a point one-quarter (¼) of a mile outside of the true Quatna Bay, and one-eighth (⅛) of a mile wide inland; also, starting from this post, taken ten (10) miles up Quatna Creek and one (1) mile wide.

22. Starting at a post on the southerly side of the point opposite the mouth of Quatna; thence one-half (½) mile, more or less, northerly to a large gulch on northerly side of point. This parcel includes the entire point, estimated at one-quarter (¼) mile wide.

23. Starting at a post near the mouth of North Quatna Creek one (1) mile, more or less, northerly of Quatna Cove, taking one (1) mile up the creek and one-quarter (¼) mile wide.

24. Commencing at a post on the southerly shore of the cove just southerly of the second point southerly of Restoration Cove; thence one and one-half (1½) miles, more or less, in an easterly direction, to northeasterly side of a large valley at the head of Kussolt Bay; thence down the northeasterly side of the valley of Kussolt Bay. Starting at this post again, follow the shore line northerly two (2) miles, to a point one-quarter (¼) of a mile northerly of Restoration Bay; thence in a southeasterly side of the Swan Mountain to the northerly side of Kussolt Bay. This parcel also takes one-quarter (¼) of a mile on each side of Kussolt Bay for ten (10) miles toward the mouth.

25. A belt of timber half a mile in width su surrounding Link (or Linx) Lake, at the head of Sisters Inlet, Deans Channel.

Friendly Help.—The regular meeting of the Friendly Help society will be held on Tuesday morning at 11 o'clock. Business of importance in connection with the Christmas arrangements will be discussed.

RETAIL MARKETS

RETAIL MARKET.

Prices remain the same as last week, with the exception of dairy butter and Island apples, which have undergone a slight raise.

Following are current prices:

Wheat, per ton	$