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LOCAL PROSPECTS.

The present outlook for Rosland seems to be much better than at any time since the boom days. It is most encouraging to see mines which have been shut down for long periods resuming operations. The fact of their doing so we may attribute to the marked reductions that have been made in treatment charges, as many properties are now able to ship ore at a profit which formerly had to be left unmined or on the dump. The most encouraging feature, however, is the prospect of an early adoption by the big mines of the concentration process on a large scale in one shape or another, the success of which means much to Rosland with its big bodies of low grade ore, which, even with the reduced smelter charges, could not be handled profitably without concentration. All the concentration methods about to be employed have been proved and found eminently adapted to the ores to be treated. With this assurance great and lasting prosperity is certain to come to us in the very near future.

THE ST. LAWRENCE ROUTE.

The removal of canal tolls appears to have given a stimulus to the trade of the St. Lawrence route. Montreal as a grain port now enjoys an advantage of three cents a bushel over New York. The charge on grain shipments from Chicago to New York for export is seven cents a bushel; from Chicago to Montreal the charge is four cents a bushel. This advantage is telling strongly in favor of Montreal. The following comparison of grain shipments to Montreal, New York and Boston we find in the Buffalo News:

The receipts of grain at Montreal for the month of July include about 4,000,000 bushels of wheat, while the combined receipts of all Atlantic and Gulf ports in this country at the same time was approximately 4,500,000 bushels. The exports were 2,380,000 bushels from Montreal, while from New York City were less than 900,000 bushels and from other points much less.

The Montreal shipments also were within 1,000,000 bushels of the combined export shipments of all the Atlantic ports. That these figures are unusual may be found from a comparison of exports during the first seven months of this year compared with the same period last year. In 1902 New York shipped 9,500,000 bushels of wheat before the first of August, Boston 4,000,000, Montreal 8,500,000. For the same period this year New York has fallen off nearly 2,000,000 bushels, Boston dropped to a little more than 1,500,000, while the Montreal shipments have risen to nearly 10,000,000 bushels.

The decline in New York is 20 per cent, in Boston 60 per cent, while the increase in Montreal is 21 per cent.

These figures are sufficient proof that under present conditions the St. Lawrence route must draw traffic from the rail and water route via Buffalo. This is the principal argument that is being used in support of the project to enlarge the Erie canal to a waterway capable of carrying 1,000-ton barges. This project will be voted on by the electors of New York state in November. However, even if this vast project, which is estimated to cost one hundred millions, be endorsed at the polls and carried to completion, it is not likely that it would overcome the natural advantages of the Canadian waterway. With Port Colborne harbor deepened and sufficient elevator accommodation provided at that point, the St. Lawrence route will be able to hold its own against any artificial waterway between Lake Erie and the Hudson river.

THE OLD FASHIONED GARDEN.

What has become of the old fashioned garden? said a suburbanite to his companion the other day, as both were coming home from business on one of the suburban railway lines. "I mean the gardens we used to see—such as our grandmothers took pride in—and the old fashioned flowers, which, with their own hands, they trained and reared—hands less adapted to hoe and rake and

dig than those of the modern athletic woman."

Yes, it is a fact, and a much-to-be-lamented fact, that the old fashioned garden, with its sweet william and its cornflowers, its dark-eyed poppies and lavender heliotropes, its black-eyed susans and delicate morning glories, whose purple petals are shyly closed when Old Sol begins to stare too rudely; its rows upon rows of haughty hollyhocks, which, when once planted, grow like weeds and threaten the more modest heartsease and bachelor buttons; its sweet scented mignonette and its never-failing daisies—is a thing of the past.

The modern woman does not look after her garden as her mother and grandmother used to do. Today there is a gardener who attends to that. He mows the lawn; he plans the shape and arrangement of the flower beds. And what does he plant? In the spring, haughty tulips and awkward hyacinths, and later on, nothing but stiff geraniums—blossoms in which there is neither grace nor perfume, possessing only one attribute of the truly beautiful flower—color.

It would seem that the modern woman ought to take more interest in gardening. She is stronger, of more athletic build than her ancestors, and, therefore, better fitted to weed a garden and care for the plants than the women of the last generation, who spent much of their spare time in doing such enervating work as crocheting and knitting. Then, too, it is remarkable that plant life has not more attractions for children, now that nature study is being introduced into the public school curriculum. And yet, in how very few suburban and country homes does one find that the children have charge of little garden plots which they may call their very own.

And with the home garden the home-made bouquet, the parting gift of every hostess to the friend who has visited her in her country home, has also passed away. Cut flowers from the greenhouse for beautifying the dinner table were, in olden times, out of the question, but a bountiful supply from the garden was always on hand, so that each and every meal a fresh bouquet could be had. Every breeze that blew wafted the scent of honeysuckle and mignonette through the house, and from early spring until late in the fall the air was redolent with sweet perfume.

Of course a well trimmed lawn and neatly designed geranium beds have their advantages, but need the garden be sacrificed to the lawn? Why not compromise and have a little of each?

IF RUSSIA AND JAPAN FIGHT.

It is somewhat significant that two leading journals in the Far East should be carrying on an active discussion of the probable development in and the result of a war between Russia and Japan. The North China Daily News began this discussion with a detailed examination of the probabilities of such a war, arriving at the conclusion that Russia must necessarily have the best of the fight. The News assumes that a naval engagement of a decisive character would begin the conflict. If Russia should be victorious she would, according to the News, be able to pour an immense army into Japan from Port Arthur. If, on the other hand, Japan should win on the water, the News cannot see that it would profit her very greatly, because she would have to give battle to Russia either in Manchuria or Korea, and there no absolutely decisive advantage could be gained by either power.

The Japan Weekly Mail of Yokohama disagrees with this reasoning. In the first place the Mail does not admit the probability of Japan's defeat on the water, showing that while Russia has in the far eastern waters a fleet of twenty-two vessels with a total tonnage of 186,240, Japan has thirty vessels with a tonnage aggregating over 206,000. This comparison includes only battleships and armored cruisers, and on the side of Japan might also be found the British fleet of fifteen vessels. If France's strength be joined to Russia's it adds but six ships of a tonnage of 33,804.

But granting that Russia was the victor in the naval battle which both sides of the controversy seem to take for granted, the Mail insists that Russia would find insuperable obstacles in the way of an invasion of Japan. The invader would be opposed by a well-trained and courageous army of 250,000 men, and to meet them successfully the Mail asserts that a Russian force of half a million would be needed. Estimating that 500 or 600 ships would be required to transport such an army with its equipment, the Mail concludes that an invasion would be quite impossible. Even assuming that it were accomplished, the paper assures its imaginary antagonists that a campaign of stupendous difficulties would remain to be brought to a successful conclusion.

In the event of Japanese victory in the preliminary naval engagement, the Mail thinks that Japan would show herself able to drive Russia out of Manchuria and back from Port Arthur and Dairen. Furthermore, according to the Mail, Russia would be greatly

handicapped by the necessity of conducting a war so far from home, while Japan would benefit in a corresponding degree by operating near home, the expense in her case being much less than that which Russia would have to bear.

IMPERIAL TRADE.

As the principal debate in the recent Imperial Trade Congress at Montreal proceeded, it became evident that no resolution would be carried which committed the delegates to an endorsement of any formal scheme of Inter-Imperial preferential trade. While the assembly was a unit, an enthusiastic unit, in regard to the necessity for developing the strength of the British Empire, there were signs of a strong opposition to any resolution that would commit the Congress to what is spoken of as "the Chamberlain scheme." It was urged that, until some plans were devised that would be of mutual benefit to the mother country, the Imperial colonies and British possessions, it would be futile and disastrous to the integrity of the Empire were any scheme adopted which was defective in this respect. The speeches were all remarkably able, full of practical information, directly bearing upon the subject of Imperial trade, such information as could only be given by men engaged in and fully acquainted with all the conditions of manufacturing enterprises.

To avoid a formal division, a compromise resolution was moved by Lord Strathcona, which was carried unanimously amid a tumult of applause. This resolution reads:

"That, in the opinion of this Congress the bonds of the British Empire would be materially strengthened and a union of the various parts of his majesty's dominion greatly consolidated by the adoption of a commercial policy based upon the principle of mutual benefit, whereby each component part of the Empire would receive a substantial advantage in trade as a result of its relationship, due consideration being given to the fiscal and industrial needs of the component parts of the Empire;

"That this Congress urges upon his majesty's government the appointment by them of a special commission composed of representatives of Great Britain and her colonies and India, to consider the possibilities of thus increasing and strengthening the trade relations between the different parts of the Empire, and the trading facilities within the Empire, and with foreign countries."

THOUGHTS FOR THE TIMES.

Goaheadiveness is a good thing in mining matters, but first "be sure you are right." Goaheadiveness, without this proviso, may land you and others, whose money you have been using, in the ditch.

For the man starting in mining, let him have all the training possible, so as to advance with no uncertain steps. It is the half-shod men that get themselves and others into trouble. It is plenty of goaheadiveness without a solid, sure foundation that covers our mining region with wrecks. Wrecks of mills and wrecks of mines. Mills located and built before mines were found or before the right treatment or process was thought of. Goaheadiveness is at the bottom of many a wildcat scheme.

"Be sure you are right" to the investor, be sure you have used every right means and every recognized precaution before you invest; such as having your property fully examined by a competent mining engineer, considering well the environment, whether there is water, wood, fuel, railway and market within a reasonable distance, and so forth. Then go ahead; and in mining, keep your mines well explored ahead of your ore bodies.

We need a certain amount of optimism, enthusiasm, and push in mining matters. They are essentials, and are desirable, provided we are first "sure we are right."

CONCERNING SILVER.

A qualified endorsement is given by the French commission to the proposals of the American Monetary Exchange commissioners at present travelling through Europe. The French commission favors a coinage ratio for the Orient with the face value of silver fixed slightly above its bullion value, similar to the American system in the Philippines. It makes some reservations in reference to the feature of the plan which contemplates the regular purchase of silver, on the ground that it is impossible to foresee the country's needs for subsidiary and colonial coinage. The French report endorses the idea of a gold standard for China and other silver-using countries, but suggests that the plan is possible only with a judicious control of the coinage by the government and the creation of an adequate gold reserve. It is intimated that the commission appointed by the Russian government to consider the proposals has reached conclusions similar to those of the French commission. Both commissions, it is understood, regard it as preferable to establish a uniform system for China by beginning on a silver basis and afterward raising it to a fixed gold value, rather than by beginning on a gold basis immediately. It is of interest to note in connection with this subject that silver, the price of which has been steadily

advancing for some time, reached last week the highest point attained since November, 1901. In part this rise is attributed to a heavy demand from India, where the metal is being distributed in large quantities to the retail trade, and in part to the purchases by Great Britain and France for their eastern possessions, and by the United States for its Philippine coinage. The adoption, if only partial, of the plans of the American Monetary Commission would undoubtedly aid in sending up the price of the white metal still further.

THE ALASKAN COMMISSION.

This week the Alaska boundary commission meets in London, and the disputed question will be once more threshed out. As usual in such cases, the hope of a satisfactory conclusion seems to be entertained, though it must not be forgotten that the way to any definite conclusion is a difficult one. The commission consists of six members, of whom three represent the United States and three the United Kingdom. Of the latter, two are Canadians. There is thus little likelihood of a majority vote being reached, for in such matters the commissioners are likely to find for the claims of their respective countries. The discussions may, however, serve the purpose of winnowing the evidence in the controversy so as to present what is material and bring into prominence the real issues to be determined. In this way, at least, the meeting of the commission may result in leaving the matter to be decided by some impartial tribunal, should it be thought advisable to submit the controversy to arbitration in the future. This is, perhaps, the most that can be expected of the meeting which is to take place this week.

WHY AMERICAN CAPITAL GOES TO MEXICO.

The reason for the great interest that is being shown by American investors in Mexican mining is apparently hard to find. It is well known that in the greater number of the states of Mexico there are valuable deposits of gold, silver and other ores, some of which have been mined for centuries and more, and are still producing largely and profitably. Another reason is that the existing government of Mexico is liberal in its policy toward those who are willing to risk their capital in developing the country's mineral resources. The government of the United States, it may be said, is also liberal in its policy toward mining men, nor will it be denied that the mineral resources of that country are as varied, as valuable and as extensive as are those of Mexico.

The answer, the correct and only answer to the question must be sought elsewhere, and the Mining Reporter of Denver furnishes it. It will not, it says, be disputed that Americans would prefer to operate in their own country, and would do so were conditions here what they should be; the great majority of them, possibly all, prefer well-paid, intelligent labor. It is not because of Mexico's cheaper labor that they are transferring their capital to that country; it is, and this is what the Reporter says, "because men having the brains and money requisite to accomplish something in an industrial way are seeking to escape from the turmoil, strikes, assaults and riots which so frequently follow in the wake of the agitator, who appeals to prejudice and envy." That is why so much American capital is going into Mexico.

Here is an object lesson for British Columbia.

ARGYLISHIRE ELECTION.

Great is the glee of the British Liberals over their success in Argyllshire. If they had captured the enemy's citadel, instead of one of the outposts, there would not have been more enthusiasm. The Argyllshire election is significant, however, too significant to be under estimated by an astute observer, such as Mr. Chamberlain. Free trade has won a political victory, but over what? Over a colorless program, that is put forward under the name of enquiry. It is always the positive and the aggressive policy that wins adherents, rather than the negative and hesitating. So while the Balfour government challenges Cobdenism as effete, and refrains from committing itself to a substitute, its opponents are fighting at a great advantage. Mr. Chamberlain evidently believes that a great point is gained in getting the public to consider and discuss the trade question without compelling the government to show its hand. This may be true enough until there is an election, or a bye-election. Then the necessity of holding out a positive policy that the public can understand becomes apparent. Argyllshire has shown that the cry of the dear loaf is potent unless it can be met with something that appeals with still greater force to the electorate. The constituency has had a chequered political career, but so have many other ridings on which the government relies. Its history, therefore, does not detract materially from the fact that a substantial Conservative majority has been changed unexpectedly into an over-

whelming Liberal majority. The result indicates that the present stage of the preferential trade movement—the enquiry stage—is weakening the Balfour government. Ministers are believed to hold conflicting views. There is no certainty as to the attitude the government will finally assume. The administration cannot meet the attacks made upon it. Enquiry may be right enough in its place, but it makes no votes. Argyllshire has warned Mr. Balfour that he is losing ground. He cannot much longer delay, with safety to the government, an unqualified and explicit declaration of policy. The result in Argyllshire reveals, moreover, the vigor with which the free traders are prepared to combat a preference. They will fight the new movement to the last ditch. As yet Mr. Chamberlain has not begun his campaign, which has been timed to start in October. That he will have need of all the help he can summon must now be plain. Unless he is backed by his colleagues, and sustained by the colonies, he will have difficulty in making his voice heard over the "dear loaf" cry. Nothing worth having is got without a struggle, and the struggle for a stronger and more compact Empire is only beginning.

TARTE AND QUEBEC.

A Montreal correspondent draws this picture of the situation of Liberalism in Quebec as affected by Mr. Tarte's defection:

"Mr. Tarte's position in the coming political struggle is causing a good deal of speculation in political circles. Naturally the Liberals are much alarmed over Mr. Tarte's recent course, and are representing him as once more a member of the Conservative party and is engaged in all kinds of interests. This may suit the Liberals' game, but is not in accordance with the facts. Mr. Tarte, as a matter of fact, is simply continuing the independent attitude he assumed even while a member of the cabinet, and which brought down upon him the wrath of Sir Wilfrid Laurier's more subservient followers in the ministry. Mr. Tarte is the apostle of protection, and he is ready to advocate fiscal reform either at meetings of Conservatives or Liberals. The monster meeting assembled at Berthierville yesterday showed that the country is ready to endorse the protection policy advocated by him.

"Mr. Tarte's attitude is well defined in his paper, La Patrie, tonight, which says: 'Mr. Tarte has accepted an invitation to speak next Sunday at St. Anselme, Dorchester county, when a great political meeting will be held. The minister is at the disposal of all Liberals or Conservatives who are favorable to the protection of our national interests. The tariff question is not a party question, it is a national question.'"

"The Liberals in the province of Quebec are in a bad way. The tide has set in strongly against them, and in losing Mr. Tarte they have lost the greatest organizing force they possessed. It is no secret that it was to Mr. Tarte more than to any one else that Sir Wilfrid Laurier owed his numerous majorities in Quebec at the last two elections. Now he is an independent force in political circles, arrayed against the government, and the Quebec Liberals must depend on Prefontaine and Bernier who are left, neither of whom has any force whatever in the province.

"It is therefore small wonder that the Liberals are alarmed over the situation and the party representatives at Ottawa are doing their utmost to dissuade the premier from having an election till they have a chance to gather their forces. According to inside information the majority of the cabinet is determined to have an election while Sir Wilfrid Laurier is with them. He is their sole chance of making any show in the coming election.

WAR IN THE BALKANS.

The conditions at present existing in the Balkans correspond with those which prevailed in the neighborhood of Peking during the Boxer rebellion, when the troops of the allied powers were forcing their way from the sea to relieve the distress of the besieged legations in the imperial city. A state of war exists and all the violent acts of war are being committed, and yet, through a fiction of international policy and courtesy, the civilized world is expected to assume that war is not being carried on because no formal declaration of it has been made. It is none the less a fact, however, that the Turkish army is now on a war footing and that regularly pitched battles are being fought between its battalions and the Bulgarian and Macedonian insurgents, fortifications are being stormed, cities are being consigned to the flames, and fertile regions are being laid waste throughout various parts of the Balkan provinces.

In all excepting in name war is now ravaging the Balkans. Turkey is pleased to call it a movement to suppress disorder and restore peace in a district within her dominion which is overrun by brigandage. The Christian powers of Europe are content to regard passing events in the Balkans as Ottoman compliance with their de-

mands for the introduction of reforms for the preservation of the general peace of the continent.

This state of war has been the direct product of the Macedonian policy to obtain emancipation from the Ottoman yoke by force and a determination to compel, if possible, European intervention in their favor. The Macedonians seem to be blind to the fact that their conduct is robbing them of all sympathy in the quarters where they expected to arouse it. Greece is exhibiting a decided disposition to join her old enemy, Turkey, in suppressing the Macedonian revolt, although, under different conditions, the bonds of the common faith of the insurrectionists and the Greeks, and their joint hatred of the Mussulmans, would have prompted her to support the Macedonian cause. The drift of popular sentiment in Europe against the Macedonians is evinced in the declaration made by General Ricciotti Garibaldi to raise a force of Italians to aid Turkey in suppressing the revolution. Europe has decided that there shall be no war, and the Macedonians seem to be inviting extermination in their determination to create a state of war.

SCHOOL OF JOURNALISM.

"It is proposed to found a school of journalism," says Dr. Goldwin Smith, "and the proposal is being taken up by men so experienced in political life as Andrew White and Secretary Hay. The object, which is to secure that a power confessedly immense shall be in excellent hands, is excellent. Whether it is attainable in the way proposed, the result of the experiment must decide. Journalism is not like law or medicine, a regular profession, nor can you exact a qualification for it analogous to a legal or medical degree. Some men make it their calling in life, but many take it up only for a time, or with a view to dealing with some special subject. The general information which a journalist ought to have can be acquired at existing universities. The knack of writing editorials can hardly be imparted anywhere. The office part of the work can be learned only in the office. In literary skill, in the purveyance of news, in editorial and administrative capacity, the newspaper press as a whole, apparently leaves not much to be desired. It seems to be fully on a level with the other marvels of the age. Yellow journalism itself is by no means wanting in anything which a professional instructor could impart. Integrity, independence, patriotism, freedom from the sinister influences which turn journalists into mere tools, are the things more apt to be lacking, and these no college training can impart."

CHINESE IMMIGRATION.

The enormous sum of \$424,891 has been collected at the port of Victoria as Chinese head tax during the period from July, 1902, to August 31 last. This easily beats all records in Oriental immigration to Canada.

Just why such numbers of these almost-eyed Celestials are pouring into the country at the present time is not hard to understand, when it is remembered that on and after January 1, 1904, there will come into effect a Dominion statute virtually prohibitive against the Orientals in its operation, raising the tax from \$100—as at present—to \$500. That such a tax will prove absolutely prohibitive is the opinion of the best informed; but from now on, until the first of the new year, the influx of the "yellow horde" is likely to increase rather than diminish.

A detailed statement of the receipts for the past fourteen months is as follows:

	1902.	
July.....	\$24,249	
August.....	20,448	
September.....	12,861	
October.....	14,580	
November.....	19,078	
December.....	10,220	
		1903.
January.....	\$17,758	
February.....	21,460	
March.....	17,621	
April.....	40,235	
May.....	51,357	
June.....	69,732	
July.....	63,944	
August.....	31,053	
Total.....	\$424,891	

The Laurier government made a great blunder when it neglected to provide for the enforcement of the new law immediately after its passage. Its failure to do so has resulted in a manner that will be far reaching in its effects.

The challenger and defender of the America cup are built and rigged so frail that their owners dare not venture to sail them over the course with the wind blowing nearly forty miles an hour. The little British cutter Genesta, which was as trim and weatherly a yacht as was ever launched, won the Brenton Reef cup from the New York Yacht Club's best schooner, Dauntless, in a gale and over a course exceeding 250 miles in length laid in the open sea. America cup racing has degenerated into a nautical farce.

A GRA

For many months discussed the in all its many eliminating certain that affected It has devoted this important of the commun other six news has done so in the prosperity of upon the lowest rates. The min appreciation by available from smelters have b tive and oblig Mining Association support by the p iligent and forcib with the problem, lic and the jack seem to have g grasp, the true in ation, and have is nothing short ference.

Before proceed probably be well t space, in order to clear and prevent done in any sense ers or to the ind the Kootenays. quently had occa the district upon that has been ach smelting Rosland may ores. The ch from \$14 or more It is highly grat the custom smelt a desire to reduc an opportunity b smelters have bee vated and improv equipped with known for econom are no better equ where than the s Kootenay ores.

This camp is no starting object leg of smelter rates, and that it will serve ally arousing the and the whole pr appreciation of a s is as unnecessary The Kootenay min shipments to the The reason assign is a higher reduct Kootenay can affor other hand, the ma port smelter declar longer accept Koo figure originally qu The result is that ation of the Koota sive scale have bee to a standstill, the closed pending of and the large force employed there are ployment.

It is not the fault that that great min down. It is not smelter that a bet cannot be quoted, but one source and supply.

Day after day, m we have argued a condition that wou tive collieries. This and certain means Crow's Nest fuel mo same time providing of smelter fuel at rates. It would be expect lower treatme Northport smelter owners have to pay for Crow's Nest cok necessary to make with a supply haul miles across the co prohibitive rates. I a question of simpl smelter. The s throughout the leng Southern British Co same predicament. duction works in tha what are under the of the Crow's Nest In the face of all expected that the m flourish to the best would flourish to an gree if the cost of c nearly one-half by of competitive collier