navigation on the Skeena is almost twice that of the Fraser. Port Es-sington, on the estuary of the Skee-na, corresponds to New Westminster on the Fraser, being the point at which the river traffic meets that of the seas. From New Westminster to those who have no experience of the ways of the flat-bottomed stern-wheeler, it would seem impossible that the seas. From New Westminster to Chillewack, which is as far as the river vessels run on the Fraser, is about 65 miles. From Essington to Hazleton, the limit of steamboat navigation on the Skeena, is over 180 miles.

At the present time, save for scattered settlements, the valley of the Skeena is wilderness, typically "howling." The state of affairs along the river is almost exactly similar to that any vessel could ever stem the swift any vessel could ever stem the swirt current which rushes through the rocky pass and live. The passage of the canyon is, however, a regular incident in the customary trips of the river boats. The stoutest engines are quite unavailing against the flood which roars through the canyon and lines resorted to, to get the vessel through

river is almost exactly similar to that along the Fraser 25 or 30 years ago, and as the valley of the southern river has been opened up and settled since that time, so it is safe to say that a score more years will see the banks of the Skeena, now covered with tim-ber and inhabited only by the Indian of working to the engines and making all preparations. The steam is turned on to the winches or the fore deck, Her wine cables are all coiled ready tribes, thick with prosperous farming

of the steamers gets but a cursory survey of the country through which he is passing, but to your correspond-ent the vast majority of that along Skeena between Essington and Hazleton appeared capable of the greatest development.

At Essington itself agriculture is veritably impossible. The immense waying in the stream.

swaying in the stream.

Then whollecrew and such passengers as have cared to stay on board stand by with collision fenders, made rainfall of 126 inches a year precludes all possibility of growing any but a few hardy vegetables, while the soil is It is in the river that lies the future of Essington. The town centers round the fishing industry. Its white population numbers about 250 souls, and all of these, save one or two who are employed in the two excellent hotels which the town boasts, are occupied in the canneries. Altogether in Essington and its purlieus there are 11 large canning plants, all in full operation. When your correspondent left the city on June 28 the fish were just commencing to run and hundreds of boats were out. The actual fishing is almost divided between the Indians and Japanese, few, if any, white men being employed on the boats.

From Essington upwards for some miles the banks of the areas and proposed on the boats. of a peary nature and unfit for tillage. It is in the river that lies the future of Essington. The town centers round

almost divided between the Indians and Japanese, few, if any, white men being samplyout on the boat one when the same and Japanese, few, if any, white men being samplyout on the boat of commendation and produced the same and the same as that of the river are rare. The working of a steamer up the being samplyout on the boat of the river are rare. The working of the steamer are attempted to the stream and a stream in a most precarious business, regard and unit for cultivation. As the higher reaches of the stream are attempted to the stream are attempted to the stream are attempted to the stream and th ties on the ground making a thorough investigation as to the resources of these islands, and it is currently re-ported that he has obtained the great-er part of the supply for wood pulp pass through the canyon many times each summer on their regular run to Hazleton from Essington. This traffic is continually growing and yet despite this the canyon is now in much the same state as nature left it.

It is current gossip among steamboat men on the Skeena that the Dominion government has spent \$30,000 on the canyon. If so, this is a glaring example of the utter incapacity of the authorities at Ottawa to deal with the situation. Had the matter been properly taken in hand, half that sum should have sufficed to have made the passage comparatively safe

In this part of the valley the mountains come right down to the waters. They are for the most part covered with timber, which will be cut and with timber, which will be cut and milled as soon as the river has been put in a fit state for logging purposes. At the present time, owing to the numerous opportunities for the formation of jams, it would be next to impossible to send logs down the stream, so that up to the present there is little lumbering in the district.

trict.

It is at Ketsumgallum river, about 50 miles from Essington, that the first really good agricultural land is met with. Settlement is going on here more rapidly than anywhere else along the Skeena, many families having gone in of late. It is expected that this will be an important station on the G.T.P. and partly with this in view and partly to accommodate incoming settlers, a commodious hotel is being erected at Frank's landing at the mouth of the river.

The only part of the Ketsumgallum valley which has so far been settled is

and three feet in height occur.

Before attempting the canyon it is customary to call a half at Kitsilaas at the foot of the rapids, for the purpose

for use, and each member of the crev takes his allotted position.
with the steam roaring through
safety valve, the funnel bel

flames and smoke in clouds and the

whole vessel vibrating to the shaking of the engines, the steamer heads for the rapids. Up and up she churns, the

made the passage comparatively safe The most dangerous part of the whole canyon is just at the Head. At this point two enormous masses of rock divide the channel, into three

THE SKEENA RIVER

THE SKIENA R be brought forward next year. 'Alter be brought forward next year.' all," said he, "the cruiser is the ship by means of which we keep our dominance of the sea. The battleships are the policemen of the sea. It is their business to destroy the fleet of the enemy, leaving the cruisers to guard the canyon and so rapid is the des-cent that in many places where rocks occur in the stream bed, falls of two

London, July 30.—Both houses to-day approved the grant of \$250,000 to. Lord Cromet, who recently resigned the post of British Agent and Consul-General in Event

### BRITISH JOURNALISTS TO BE HERE NEXT WEEK

Party Now Touring Canada Will Spend Three Days In Victoria

On Tuesday next a number of distinguished British journalists, who are crossing the continent as the guests of the C. P. R., will arrive in Victoria. The party left Calgary yesterday and will proceed by easy stages to Vancouver, where they will arrive on Monday next, after having visited Banff, Field, Glacier, etc. From Vancouver they will cross to Victoria and will remain here until Thursday when will remain here until Thursday when they will leave again for Vancouver, from where they will proceed east by way of the Crow's Nest Pass line. It may be interesting that the stay in Victoria is the longest they will make in any one place during their parties. in any one place during their entire trip through Canada. The personnel of the party is as follows:

The Times

Mr. Ernest Brain joined the staff of he London Times in 1883 and has the London Times in 1883 and has acter as reporter, subeditor, private secretary to the editor-in-chief, and on many occasions as special correspondent. He was London correspondent of the New York Times from August, 1903, to November, 1904, succeeding Harold Frederic in this capacity. In 1904 he was special corrective.

the stem summation river, about the first really good agriculture and the first with. Settlement is going on her work of the steen anny families having the Steen anny families having forest the forest many family from the Steen anny families having the steen anny families having son in of late. It is expected that the steen and partly to accommodate incoming settlers, a commodous hotel in the first she was led to forest the one and partly to accommodate incoming settlers, a commodous hotel in the first she was led to forest the one and partly to accommodate incoming settlers, a commodous hotel in the she was and partly to accommodous hotel at the mouth of the river, and partly with this first the mouth of the river, and partly with the first she was still that the she was and the state of the state of the still that the she was and the state of the st 

T. B. Maclachlan. Educated cotsman in 1886; sub-editor of the Evening Dispatch till he was appoint d editor of the Weekly Scotsman. Au-hor of "William Blacklock, Journaled editor of "William Blacklock, Journal-ther of "William Blacklock, Journal-ist," "Life of David Livingstone," "Life of Myngo Park." Originator of the Scotsman heather scheme, by which heather is sent in parcels for St. An-drew's day to Scottish societies v's day to Sc ughout the world.

Daily News. H. W. Smith, chief sub-editor e London Daily News, the paper edited by Charles Dickens, and the organ of the Liberal party. now the organ of the Liberal party. Mr. Smith has been on the staff or seventeen years, joining as assistant s foreign edit

Pall Mall Gazette Mr. Howard Gray had a distinguished caper at Aberdeen university and then enlisted in the Fourth (militia) Highland Light Infantry. Drifted into fournalism and joined the staff of the Scottish Leader. Then edited the Birmingham Argus. Now is leader writer on the Pall Mall Gazette, the chief Conservative events paper.

Mr. J. Arthur Sandbrook, chief as-Mr. J. Arthur Sandbrook, chief assistant-editor, joined the staff of the Cambrian in 1891, and became chief reporter and sub-editor. Volunteered for service with the Welsh regiment in the South African war. He was with the regiment in Lord Roberts main advance from Bloemfontein through Johannesburg and Pretoria and westward to the Portuguese border, being present at the general actions of Diamond Hill and Belfast, and several smaller engagements. He actseveral smaller engagements. He act-ed at the same time as a special cor-respondent for the Welsh papers. On his return from the war, Mr. Sand-brook joined the staff of the Western Mail, the leading Welsh newspaper, as a reporter, and a year later, in 1902, he became assistant editor and leader

On the London staff of the Glasgow Herald, Mr. Rinder is the art critic for that paper and also for the Daily News. As a descriptive writer Mr. Rinder, has few equals on the English press. He is also a regular contributor to such papers as the Art Journal. Westminster Gazette.

Mr. Kenneth Barnes is a graduate

Timber Cruiser Sustains

It Will Rival the Boundary

Serious Accident

Country

Coun

Several bush fires are reported to be raging on the northern coast. The Queen City will leave again for Rivers Inlet and way ports at 10 p. m. tonight, and it is expected she will have a large freight.

THROUGH INTERIOR

Deputy Minister of Agricultural Is Home From Visit to Kaslo and Other Places

Lake institute. Meetings were held at Kaslo, at Ainsworth and Pilot Bay at Kaslo, at Alnsworth and Pilot Bay where the deputy minister addressed the farmers of the respective districts upon matters connected with farmers institute work and fruit growing. Neil Mackay, M. P P for Kaslo, was also present at the various meetings and delivered addresses, as did J. W. Coppell, of Kaslo. The latter spoke at some length on insect pests. The following were elected officers of the new institute.

President, J. G. Palmer, Kaslo. Vice-president W. G. Robb, Kaslo ecretary-treasurer A. J. Curle, Kas

Mr. P. H. Cookman, foreign and colonial editor of this famous Conservative and fashionable journal Mr. Cookman has been on the staff of the Morning Post for nearly twenty years and has been its special correspondent in Denmark and other foreign countries on important occasions. The Morning Post has always paid special countries on important occasions. The Morning Post has always paid special tent in Denmark and other foreign countries on important occasions. The Morning Post has always paid special stention to Ganada matters. Mr. Cookman is a Londoner.

Cardiff Western Mail.

discover the cause of death.

Mr. Anderson reports that the crop
prospects are most favorable for the
present year. Everything is green and flourishing, there having been plenty of rain. During his visit there were thunder showers. The crops especially the fruit looks exceedingly well all through the Kootenays. The cherries ook exceedingly well and are a sight

Creston is progressing rapidly, a ranch of the Bank of Commerce hav-

branch of the Bank of Commerce having lately been inaugurated there. There are still large areas of land unoccupied, the lower ground suitable for crops of hay, etc., while the uplands are available for the culture of fruit. The travel is at present heavy. Many new settlers are arriving from the east and the prairies, while the trains are crowded with tourists. During his trip, Mr. Anderson made a close examination of the districts where the codling moth was reported to exist, but did not find the slightest trace of it. The moth preys on apple and pear trees and its ravages have been great in California and Washington and Oregon. The immunity which British Columbia enjoys, Mr. Anderson ascribes to the energetic methods adopted by Thomas Cunningham, inadopted by Thomas Cunningham, in-spector of fruit trees last year. It could hardly have been expected that the pest if it had existed could have

Strathcona 9,000 northeast of the Telqua. Owing to Kildalla 9,000 the lack of trails we could not travel Alert bay 4,200 faster than a mile and a half an hour. "We also visited the Babine range trict, which is destined to add an-other rich lead district to British Columbia. The lead and silver ores are known to be located in a belt six miles long and two miles wide. "The first discovery was on the Devil group, and it has the most de-veloped surface showings. The owners cannot undertake extensive work ow-

Vancouver, B. C., July 29.—Word received from Granite Creek states that a fine seam of bituminous coat nine feet in width has been opened up on the North Fork, a few miles from Granite Creek. know more about my plans as soon Granite Creek.

William Corkle is the holder of the coal land and is at present engaged in prospecting and opening up the seams.

know more about my plans as soon as I get my ore samples assayed."

Mr. Cronin spoke enthusiastically about the agricultural possibilities of the Bulkley valley.

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CAPITAL (all paid up) .....\$6,000,000.00 RESERVE FUND ...... \$4,000,000.00

A General Banking Business Conducted

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All out of town business will receive prompt attention, deposits can be made and money withdrawn by mail without any delay.

VICTORIA BRANCH, - R. F. TAYLOR, Manager

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# House Furnishing Discount Sale

Commencing Saturday, July 27th, we will for Ten Days allow a discount of 25 per cent, on small lines of Enamel and Tinware, including the Famous Austrian Elite Ware, just imported.

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R. S. Sargent, - Hazelton, B. C.

Fourteen years in Business at Hazelton

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