

IT WILL SOON MEET

Coming Session of the Legislature Promises to Be Lively.

THE OPPOSITION PROGRAM

Premier and Mr. Pooley to Be Attacked—Government's Railway Policy in Relation to Boundary Country Is to Be Discussed.

VICTORIA, Jan. 25.—A rival to Klondike as a topic for public discussion is the approaching session of the legislature. It is expected that there will be some sensational developments during the progress of the session, and the Man in the Street is, consequently, on tiptoe of expectancy. Everyone argues that the Turner government will either launch a coup d'etat that will confuse its critics or completely damn itself politically.

"What will Turner do?" is the question oftenest asked in political circles. Even his bitterest political enemies admit that if he takes "the bull by the horns" and adopts a strong, liberal policy, his chances for a successful appeal to the country will be vastly augmented. Your correspondent learns from the very best source that a determined attempt will be made shortly after the summoning of the house, in fact, during the progress of the session, to reply to the speech from the throne—to defeat the government on a want of confidence motion. The shrewd observers of the situation do not think this attempt will be successful, but friends of the administration would wish that certain so-called supporters of the government were a more certain quantity.

The defection of "Let'er Flicker" Kellie and Speaker Higgins, together with the "lukewarmness" displayed by Walkem, Ewing, and Helmecken, is sufficient to cause the government to desire to inaugurate a policy which will be popular in the country and serve to conciliate the fretful elements in its own ranks.

A Chat With an M. P. P. Your correspondent had a long conversation with a prominent M. P. P. the other day, a supporter of the Turner government, and he spoke very freely on the political situation. Asked as to whether the session was likely to be a stormy one, he replied:

"Yes, I think it will be very lively, but I am confident the government will overcome all difficulties and obstructions."

"You, of course, believe," said the interviewer, "that the government will be sustained when it appeals to the country?"

"Yes, and I'll tell you my reasons for thinking so. In the first place, a government always has an advantage over the opposition in that it occupies the citadel, controls the situation and may, by a sudden move, effectually take the wind out of the sails of its opponents. Many believe that the government will do this latter, i. e., steal some of the opposition thunder."

"In the next place," continued the M. P. P., "who, by the way, requested that his name would not be published, 'there is a decided want of confidence in the opposition manifested by the electorate generally all over the province.'"

"Don't you think the presence of Messrs. Bodwell and Davis will strengthen the opposition considerably?" "Yes, I do; but it will take considerable time for Messrs. Bodwell and Davis, no matter how active a campaign they may inaugurate, to overcome the feeling of distrust now abroad in the country in the opposition, because of its apathy, weakness and general incapacity."

The Boundary Railway Question. "Of all the public questions at present being discussed what, in your opinion, most urgently demands the attention of the government?"

"A railway entirely independent of the C. P. R. to open up the Boundary Creek country. One of the most extensive and valuable mineral districts in Canada, including the Kettle river, Boundary creek and Lower Okanagan sections is now lying idle and unproductive owing to the want of transportation facilities."

"Is it true that the opposition intend to make a strong fight to have this railway built as a government undertaking?"

"Oh, I can't tell; you know I am not a member of the opposition—at present; but I understand they have, as a party, determined upon such a course."

"Which of the rival proposals is the government likely to favor?"

"That is the question; and it is my honest conviction that upon the solution of that question rests the fate of the deal with the propositions—that of Corbin, Heinze, the C. P. R. (V. V. & E.), and the suggestion of the opposition to construct the road as a government undertaking. Personally, I am strongly opposed—and I think the mass of the people think likewise—to a policy that will permit the C. P. R. to 'hog' everything in sight. One thing is absolutely sure: It is as certain as night follows day that the C. P. R. will, if the brake is not applied, swamp every hope entertained for a competing line. My sympathies are with Mr. Heinze, who is, in my opinion, a gentleman who has been accorded a great deal of abuse by those who are in praise of his enterprise."

Before taking leave of this gentleman your correspondent asked him what in his opinion would be the most prominent features of the debates during the session, and he mentioned the following:

Recipitation upon the government by the opposition regarding the connection of the premier and Mr. Pooley with certain Klondike mining companies.

Second—Discussion of the government's railway policy, and the fight of the opposition in their proposal to build the Boundary Creek railway as a government undertaking.

Third—The question of redistribution.

Commends the Plan. LONDON, Jan. 29.—An editorial in the Morning Post commends in every way the suggestion that a naval militia be organized in Canada.

KYDD MADE MANAGER.

Will Have Charge of the Merchants' Branch Bank at Nelson.

Nelson, Jan. 26.—[Special.]—George Kydd, late manager of the Sandon branch of the Bank of British North America, has accepted the position of manager of the new branch of the Merchants' Bank of Halifax, which will be opened in Nelson on February 1. Mr. Kydd arrived in the city yesterday, and with W. A. Spencer of the Rossland branch is personally supervising the fitting up of the new bank premises in the Mara block on Baker street. The premises are commodious and are being fitted in first-class style. The fixtures were imported from Spokane, and are of elegant design and finish. They are of walnut, and contain teller's, ledger, bookkeeper's, and collection department desks, and are by far the handsomest that have ever been brought to this city.

When completed the new bank will have the most elegantly fitted offices in the province, outside of Vancouver and Victoria. A new fireproof vault is being put in for storing the bank's papers. This is the third branch of the bank established in British Columbia during the past year, and demonstrates that the management has full confidence in the future of West Kootenay. Mr. Mackenzie, late of Montreal, will occupy the position of accountant in the new bank.

Another shipment of 25 tons of ore is being hauled from the Athabasca mine on Tood mountain, about three miles from Nelson, to the Hall mines smelter, which brings the total shipments up to 280 tons. The value of the ore averages about \$45 per ton. The annual meeting of the company was held in New Westminster on January 11th, at which the directors' report showed its affairs to be in a prosperous condition. On its mining operations it has made a profit of \$4,000 and have 500 tons of ore on the dump ready for shipment.

At a meeting of the Nelson school board, held on Tuesday evening, Miss N. O'Reilly was appointed fourth assistant teacher. The matter of a new school building will shortly be taken up by the board.

Provincial Constable Jarvis of Goat River Landing, brought in on Tuesday two prisoners, Finley and Finnan, charged with being drunk and disorderly. They were each sentenced to one month's imprisonment by Magistrate Crease, and Finley got two months additional for theft.

E. J. Coyle, district passenger agent of the C. P. R., and A. S. Devitt, traveling auditor, are in the city.

The city engineer, who was instructed by the council to inspect Carney hall and report as to its safety, has reported that he found it unsafe for public use for such purposes as to be forbidden until it is made safe. As this is the only hall in the city suitable for large gatherings, it is hoped that steps will be taken at once to make it safe.

ROSSLAND WON AGAIN.

Our Boys Defeated the Crack Players of Kaslo Last Evening.

KASLO, Jan. 28.—[Special.]—The Rossland hockey team gained another victory this evening, when it defeated the Kaslo club by the score of 10 to two. The game attracted unusual interest, because of Rossland's victory last night over Sandon, the crack club of the Slokan, by a score of 4 to 0, and a large number of spectators was present. Although the rink was strange to them, the visitors played in splendid style, and won game after game in such irresistible fashion that it was with difficulty that the home team succeeded in scoring.

The Rossland team work was unusually fine, although there was a large number of brilliant individual plays. Merritt, the captain of the Rosslands, distinguished himself on a number of occasions, and his support was uniformly good. Kaslo played in a very hard game, but she could not stand up against the visitors. The opinion here is that the Rosslanders are invincible. The visitors play Nelson tomorrow afternoon, and return home Saturday evening.

The club lined up as follows: Chesterton, McBride, Townshend and Beecher, forwards; O'Brien, coverpoint; Merritt, point; McCreary, goal.

CARNIVAL PRIZE WINNERS.

The prize winners at the carnival in the Rossland rink were as follows: Ladies' Graceful Skating—First prize, May Harris; second prize, Lizzie Wilkins.

Girls' Graceful Skating—First prize, Bella Inches.

Ladies' Costumes—First prize, Mrs. Anderson; second prize, Mrs. Dickson.

Girls' Costumes—First prize, Ethel Given; second prize, Irene Lockhart.

Men's Graceful Skating—First prize, Al Harris.

Men's Costumes—First prize, A. T. McAuley; second prize, Arthur Ray.

Comic Costume—First prize, J. Ella Little Girls' Race—First prize, Ella Inches.

Boys' Obstacle Race—Beecher Rollins and Richard McKeller.

COLONEL TOPPING'S VISIT.

People Strongly in Favor of the Columbia & Western Railway.

GRAND FORKS, Jan. 28.—[Special.]—Colonel E. S. Topping of Trail, has been here for the last few days feeling the public pulse with regard to the Columbia & Western railway receiving a cash subsidy from the Dominion government at the coming session. Mr. Topping was strongly supported at Vernon, Midway and the Grand Forks people generally bear towards the Columbia & Western railway in preference to all other roads asking aid from the government.

Colonel Topping was much pleased with his treatment at Grand Forks this trip, and left this afternoon for Trail.

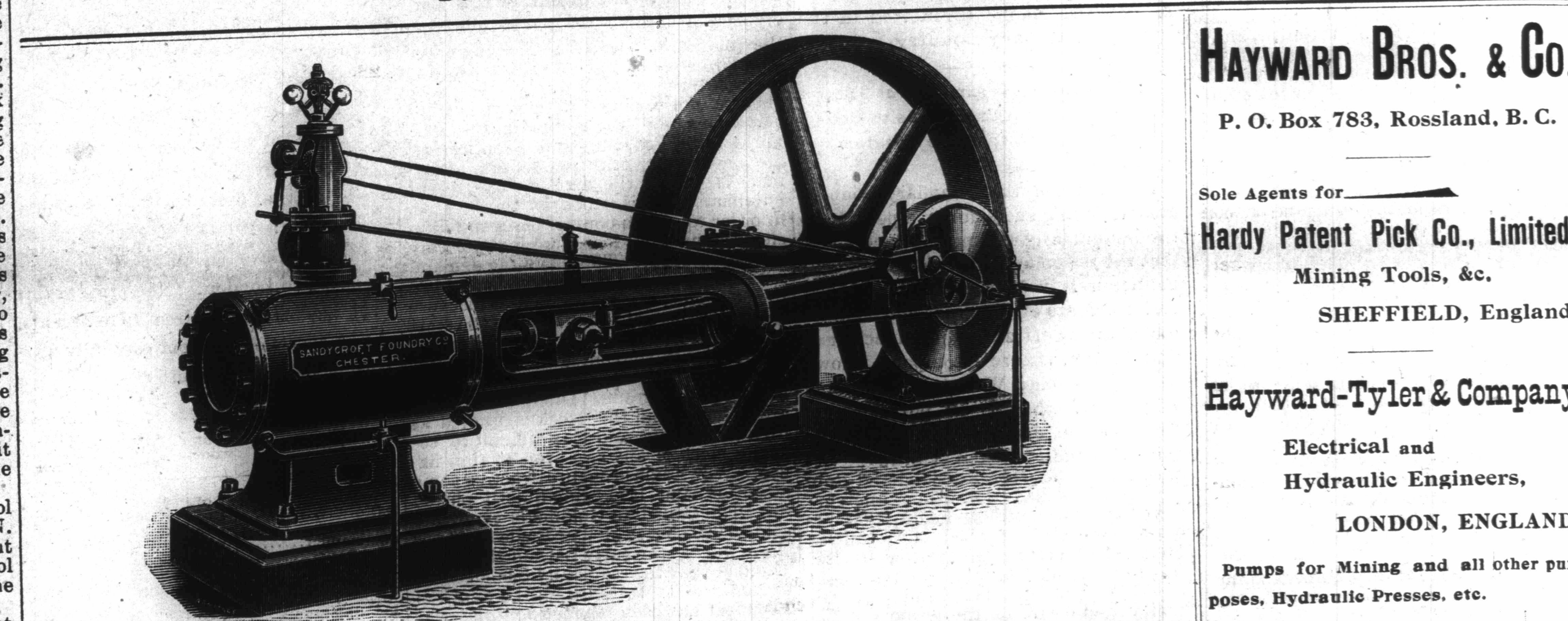
At the regular weekly session of the city council held today it was decided to pay Contractor Davey \$5,000 account of an \$8,000 estimate lately furnished by Mr. Davey. This is the second estimate paid on account of the water works contract.

Arthur Marshall, a resident of this place, has just received word from New York city to the effect that he has fallen heir to a large fortune through the death of a collateral relative. Mr. Marshall will leave for New York in a few days.

Word comes from Nelson, Wash., of a serious shooting accident yesterday to the little daughter of Frank O'Brien. While Mr. O'Brien was examining a revolver it accidentally went off, the ball entering the abdomen of his little daughter and ranging downward. Immediately after the accident Dr. Manly was summoned and pronounced his little charge in a most critical condition.

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Kaslo & Slokan Railway TIME CARD. Subject to change without notice. Trains run on Pacific Standard time.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR. B. C. MINING NEWS. GREAT FALLS, Mon., Jan. 25. Editor Miner—Sir: Can you tell me where I can obtain an inexpensive copy of the British Columbia mining laws. For such information, if you can supply it, I will be much indebted. Yours truly, Mrs. W. H. Gordon, 215 Twelfth street, north.

WON AT EVERY POINT. British Diplomacy Scores a Series of Important Victories. PORTS OF THE FAR EAST. They Will Remain Open to the Ships of All the World—Other Concessions.—Lord Salisbury and Hon. Joseph Chamberlain Divide the Honors.

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The Victoria D issue of January 23 torial under the Mouth Closed." ously against the prohibited from sp prosecution of ce priors who are Hon. Messrs. Tur Colonist editor s Russia that such Then follows a e what is termed " ception of the libe the press." It is al charged with g has the right to and is not debat such facts as he m that he is guilty issue in these c in importance, the greater q liberty of sp article refers to th that the subject this libel has arise in the legislature h house, and decla will so hold. Wh the right of the le own rules, still be of a member to b any subject which public interest ca implication. If Speaker will dec the libel cases ou ist's advice is th and that the ma It is held to be t have a rule to ceedings for l the legislature o the legislators a cusion of any su "We say," says member of the h up for discussio of the defendant might very pr order, but if he s section of Mess with any incorp cusion he would ceeding only b which prevent co business affairs of Hon. D. W. H legislature, repli Tuesday last. M in which he indu at the expense onist for not inf to the existence o that it is not the laws, but that them. Then the May's parliament says on page 264 under adjudica be brought bef or otherwise." authority says: speaking to a qu matters pending page 308: "Ma dication of a not be brou bate. This by Sir Robert Russell, both by from the throne the House rega case, and has be from the chair the rule has sto in the House most debating has never to been successful all learn," he sa of procedure bo ment. "It is f is no place in can obtain a fa and this is due by all classes f clamation that press is free a discuss every qu ance; but when browbeat judg judge cases, as As an instance journalism in the the Durrant ca Mr. Higgins p past been the S everybody in h his recent polit admitted fact with the Oppo that when the will be found. the ranks of the party in power foregone concl will have to be as presiding- assembly. It writing the above referred unwritten law alone he sho political choo The fact th Pooley have i private corp raised a sort The integrity Turner has b adventure of years, and th Pooley. It has been the Governm the Opposit sincerity of