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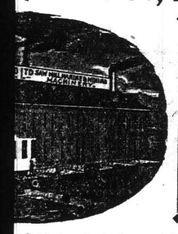

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BACK FROM BRAZIL.

NEW YORK, March 25.—The steamship Wadsworth, which arrived yesterday, brought seventeen Canadian families, who had been to Brazil to organize there. They came back destitute, having found that the conditions there were not as they had been represented to them by the agent, who induced them to go to the country.

This is the second batch of colonists that has returned within the past six weeks, each lot being destitute. The British consul will send the colonists back to Montreal.

WORK OF THE SESSION.

Important Ministerial Measures Foreshadowed In the Speech From the Throne.

The Commons of Canada Opened With Customary and Appropriate Ceremony.

OTTAWA, March 25.—The session of the Dominion Commons was formally opened at 3 o'clock this afternoon, when a large number of people witnessed the customary and imposing ceremonies. His Excellency in the speech from the throne said:

"Hon. Gentlemen of the Senate; Gentlemen of the House of Commons:

"In welcoming you on your attendance at the second session of this parliament I desire to express the gratification I feel at the evidence which prevails throughout the Dominion of the loyalty and affection entertained by the Canadian people for Her Majesty the Queen, and of their desire to join with their fellow-subjects in all parts of the empire in celebrating the diamond jubilee in a manner worthy of that joyous event; and I am pleased to be able also to announce that in accordance with an invitation from the Imperial government arrangements are being made for an effective representation of the Dominion in connection with the commemoration of this historic occasion at the capital of the Empire.

"Immediately after the last session the government of Manitoba was invited to hold a conference with my ministers on the subject of grievances arising out of an act of that province relating to education, passed in the year 1890. In response to that invitation, three members of the Manitoba government came to Ottawa, and after many and protracted discussions a settlement was reached between the two governments which was the best arrangement to be had under the existing conditions of this disturbance. I confidently hope that this settlement will put an end to the agitation which has marred the harmony and impeded the development of our country, and will prove the beginning of a new era to be characterized by generous treatment of one another, mutual concession and reciprocal good will.

"A measure will be submitted to you for the revision of the tariff which, it is believed, will provide the necessary revenue, and, while having due regard to industrial interests, will make our fiscal system more satisfactory to the masses of the people.

"You will be asked to give your support to a bill abolishing the present expensive and unsatisfactory franchise act and adopting for the election of members of the House of Commons the franchises of the several provinces.

"My government has determined that the advantages to accrue both to our Western producers and the business interests of the whole Dominion from the completion of works for the enlargement of the St. Lawrence canals should no longer be deferred, and has, subject to the approval of parliament, taken the initial step for a vigorous prosecution of these works and for the perfecting of the canal system by the close of the year 1898.

"I have much satisfaction in informing you that arrangements have been concluded which, if you approve, will enable the Intercolonial railway system to reach Montreal, and thus share in the large traffic. The advantages which will flow from this extension of that railway are apparent, and I have no doubt you will gladly approve of the proposal.

"Appreciating the difficulties encountered by our farmers in placing their perishable food products on the English markets in good condition, my government has arranged a complete system of cold storage accommodation at creameries, on railways, at ports and on steamers, by which these products can be preserved at the desired temperature during the whole journey from the point of production to Great Britain. The contract made for this purpose will be laid before you.

"It is desirable that the will of the people of Canada should be clearly ascertained on the subject of prohibition, and a measure enabling the electors to vote upon the question will be submitted for your approval.

"The Behring sea claims convention, constituted during the past year to adjust the damages payable to the owners of the British sealing vessels seized by cruisers of the United States on the high seas, has completed taking the evidence submitted to it by the respective governments of Her Majesty and the United States, and has adjourned for a time to hear the argument thereon on behalf of both governments. I indulge the hope that a final and satisfactory adjudication of this long-delayed claim will now speedily be reached.

"The calamity which has befallen our fellow-subjects in India has evoked a widespread sympathy in this country. The generous manner in which the appeal for practical tokens of this feeling has been responded to has elicited warm assurances of grateful acknowlekgment from the government of India, which have also been specially and heartily endorsed by the Imperial authorities.

"Gentlemen of the House of Commons: The accounts of the past year will be laid before you. The estimates for the coming year will be presented at an early day. They have been framed with every regard for economy consistent with the efficiency of the public service. I regret that the receipts from ordinary sources continue to be inadequate to meet the charges against the consolidated revenue. The proposed revision of the tariff and the application of strict economy in the administration of government will, I trust, restore this equilibrium between income and expenditure.

Hon. Gentlemen of the Senate: Gentlemen of the House of Commons: Among the bills which have been prepared and will be submitted for your approval are bills amending the superannuation act and civil service act. These and other measures I commend to your consideration, and express the hope that your deliberations, under the divine guidance, will tend to increase the happiness and prosperity of every class in the Dominion."

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PEOPLE OF PROMINENCE.

Mr. Gladstone is now very deaf, but in spite of increasing decrepitude he dresses as jauntily as of yore, is never seen without a flower in his coat, and can hurl defiance at the "great assassin" as forcefully as if he was forty years younger. A woman who saw the right honorable gentleman as he was departing for Cannes not many weeks ago writes that he reminded her of an ancient oak tree with a pink blossoming on its hoary trunk.

As a school boy the late Professor Henry Drummond was fonder of games than of books, but was always interested in flowers and natural objects, and was noted for his love of fun.

The Grand Duke Paul of Russia is so tall that no hotel bed is long enough for his comfort, and he has one built in sections, which he carries with his luggage everywhere. The bed is put up by a special mechanic, under the superintendence of the royal valet, wherever the grand duke goes.

Since the death of Baron Hirsch his widow has been making lavish gifts to various charities in France, England and Austria. Besides the 2,000,000 francs which she has given for the building of a laboratory for the Pasteur institute, she has recently given 2,000,000 francs for the pension fund of the Oriental railroads, in building which Baron Hirsch laid the foundation of his colossal fortune. Besides this, she has given 1,000,000 francs for the foundation of a hospital in London, and several beneficent institutions in Paris have just received large sums from her. It is estimated that within the last two months Baroness Hirsch has distributed 12,000,000 francs in charity.

One fact for which admiration of Queen Victoria will be claimed at the approaching celebration of her "longest reign" is the great reduction in England's national debt that has taken place since she came to the throne. Just what part she and her numerous family had in bringing about this decrease in the public burden it must be left to the devoted supporters of monarchical institutions to define, but the figures are sufficiently stupendous to give them interest for their own sake. In the year of the Queen's accession, the national debt amounted to £850,132,783, while last year it had been reduced to £648,474,143, an average annual decreased of about £6,250,000. During the sixty years the aggregate increase in the debt has amounted to £177,573,332, the chief items in this sum being £67,000,000 for wars, great and small; £63,000,000 for local loans, the purchase of Suez canal shares, and loans made to India and the Cape of Good Hope, and £42,000,000 for conversions and redemptions. As against this total increase in the debt, however, the decrease amounts to £379,231,972, representing a reduction of £201,658,640. This is all very gratifying, no doubt, but to ordinary mortals the difference between owing £850,132,783 and £648,474,143 is almost inappreciable.

WHO WAS HE?

In a little ravine, forty rods north of the Lake Washington pumping station, where the sallalberry bushes, briars and second growth of fir trees combine in nature's own way to make an almost impenetrable thicket, the body of a well-dressed man was found yesterday afternoon at 5 o'clock. There was a bullet hole in his right temple, and the thumb and forefinger of his right hand clutched a new 38-calibre revolver. A gold-filled case watch was found in the vest pocket, and in the left-hand pocket of the trousers was a 25-cent piece, but not a single thing was found that explained the identity of the dead. Everything pointed to deliberate suicide, and the condition of the body is such that it will not be an easy matter to secure positive identification.

The body was that of a large man, five feet ten or eleven inches tall, and would weigh between 180 and 190 pounds. Even in the uncertain light furnished by a bull's-eye lantern it could be seen that the clothes were of fine material. It became evident that the case was not of the ordinary kind. The man lay on his back. His left arm was thrown across his chest, and his right was extended at the side of his body. In the right hand was clutched a revolver. A black slouch hat was glued to the top of the corpse's head, but when the light was flashed upon the face, that looked decidedly the worse for wear and tear of the elements. It was seen that the fatal shot had taken effect in the right temple. The body had on a black overcoat, a black worsted square cut coat lined with satin. The trousers were of good quality, a fine stripe, color, dark. The man wore a navy blue woolen shirt, with a necktie of mixed colors, the base being blue. The underclothes were good, color brown. His stockings were black and his shoes were of congress make nearly new. They were broad tones.

SHORTENING THE VOYAGE.

Referring to the recent attempts to shorten the passage across the Atlantic, the Monetary Times observes that there is another way besides the character of the vessels in which the trip across the Atlantic will shortly be abridged, lessening the voyage more than any form or character of vessels could alone do it. The railway across Newfoundland, from east to west, with St. John's at one end and Port au Basque at the other, is approaching completion. In connection with this road, Sydney, Cape Breton, will have steamboats, one of which is now being built at a cost of $260,000. The steamboat lines which sail from New York to Europe, as well as Canadian vessels, will have to utilize the railway, or be left behind in the race; if a gain of anything like what is expected be made by the railway in shortening the trip across the Atlantic, it will be simply impossible for any line of steamers in a position to make a great gain by use of the railway connection not to avail itself of the advantage. Old salts, once aboard would perhaps prefer to stick to the steamer all the way across, but there must be a large proportion of passengers who would prefer to divide the voyage by making use of the Newfoundland railway.—Railway Review."

HAVANA, March 24.—General Ahumada, who is acting captain-general during the absence from this city of General Weyler, authorizes the correspondent of the Associated Press to deny the report published in the United States that the insurgents under Calixto Garcia have captured the important town of Holguin, in the Province of Santiago de Cuba.

NEWS OF THE PROVINCE

Trapping Privileges Besought For Yet Another Season—That Central American Service.

Progress of the Timber Commission—The Belle and the Bicycle.

VANCOUVER, March 25.—(Special)—A joint resolution from the council and the board of trade was wired to Ottawa to-day, to the effect that "This board by resolution urges upon the government that licenses for trapping at Boundary Bay be issued for the present season, large sums of money having been expended by the canners in preparing for the season's catch which cannot otherwise be recovered." Another resolution was to the effect that the board considered that the establishment of a line of steamers between British Columbia and Central and South America would be of considerable benefit to this province, and the Dominion generally, and merits the serious consideration and assistance of the Dominion government, that the Minister of Trade and Commerce be notified to this effect. Still another resolution was, that under the present conditions of the lumber trade in British Columbia, "this board is of the opinion that the rebate of 40 cents per thousand at the present time allowed on all lumber cut from off Dominion lands and exported from the province should be continued, and that as the United States government proposes to impose a duty on Canadian lumber, we would recommend that a duty of exactly the same amount should be imposed upon all sawn lumber coming into Canada from the United States."

Peter Arattent, otherwise known as Bariboo Pete or French Pete, died last evening. He was a veteran of '58, during which eventful year he visited Cariboo. While working as miner and prospector some years ago he lost his eyesight and in addition was afflicted with rheumatism. Some time ago he obtained admission to the city hospital, where his constant suffering was ameliorated and his life prolonged until last evening.

A. H. King, some time secretary for the Y.M.C.A. here, has returned to his home in Toronto.

A young lady was run into by a wheelman on Granville street yesterday and knocked down. The rider had no bell on his bicycle.

VANCOUVER, March 26.—(Special)—A strange case is before the police court. A boy named James was apprenticed for five years to Capt. Walsh of the ship Pass of Milford, now in port. He became interested in the Salvation Army on shore and told a companion that he was going to desert. Thomas Whipple of the Salvation Army, was called before the police magistrate this morning, charged with persuading young James to run away, as he has been missing since Monday night, when he obtained leave to take tea at Whipple's house. Wipple denied all knowledge of the boy's whereabouts and swore that he had advised James not to desert. The boy cannot be found.

Another big strike has been made on the Tinhorn. The second tunnel, started on a big outcrop of barren quartz, has run into a fine ledge of blue quartz at a short distance from the surface. The blue quartz carries high values. The Tinhorn is being talked about almost as much now in Vancouver as the Golden Eagle, and Fairview camp is considered to be one of the most promising camps in British Columbia. The entire camp is in the hands of capitalists and the properties, being free milling, will be developed at once. Seventy-five men are now on the pay roll in the camp, which is constantly being visited by many mining engineers.

Mr. Innes, who has recently returned from the Two Friends mine, reports a good strike on this property. In the main tunnel a body of ore was struck running about 12 ounces in gold, four ounces in silver and four per cent copper. The vein is 30 inches wide.

The Alpha Bell stock is at last on the market. Some 10,000 shares are all that will be sold in Vancouver, and it is anticipated that it will be bought up very quickly at 50 cents from the fact that Mr. Noel, foreman of the Golden Cache mines, in his report on the property, states that the vein in the Golden Eagle, on which he is working, is distinctly traced across the Alpha Bell, about 750 feet distant, and the ore belt across the Alpha Bell, he believes, is of the same nature as that of the Golden Eagle. Other quartz veins are also traced across the Alpha Bell. It is a rich proposition, and its value is proved by the development of the Golden Eagle. Twenty thousand shares will be sold in the province.

The Texada Proprietory Company have acquired the Alma mine, adjoining their valuable property on Texada Island known as the Silver Tip.

The fisheries question was considered at a meeting of the Young Men's Liberal Club this week. All shades of politicians, however, are a unit on that question in Vancouver. It is thought that the government should give one season's notice before disallowing fish traps in Boundary bay, owing to the large outlay necessary for their construction in the first place and the short time they have been in use.

Barney Riley, a logger, is missing from his hotel on Water street. It is feared that he has fallen in the inlet. A lengthy search for him about town has been of no avail.

WESTMINSTER.

WESTMINSTER, March 25.—(Special)—At yesterday's session of the crown timber commission, J. G. Scott, representing the Pacific Coast company, deposed that the company had no permit or license from the Dominion. He did not require the loggers' proof of timber being legally cut; he always referred settlers to the crown agent for permits. Sometimes these permits were given in writing, and sometimes they were verbal.

Mr. Higginson explained that he sometimes gave verbal permits, as the settlers could not always pay the cash deposit for a regular permit before they commenced cutting, and his object was to assist the settler. Settlers were allowed to clear their own land and sell the timber as they saw fit. H. J. Livingston deposed that he cut timber on Murphy's claim, on the Nickomeck river, on which was paid no crown dues. Duncan B. Grant testified that some 1,270,000 feet had been cut on what he believed to be government ground; 75,000 feet had been stacked in their yard (Grant and Ker's), and on none of this were government dues paid.

WESTMINSTER, March 26.—(Special)—At the timber commission yesterday, H. Best swore that his firm, Best Bros., had cut about ten booms of logs for the Hastings mill. They had no permit to cut timber. J. D. Townley stated that he was assistant to the general superintendent of the C.P.R. He would have cognizance of all timber contracts for the railway during the existence of the contracts. The company had no permit from the government to cut timber. The last permit was dated 1894. The permit was returned in January, 1897. They cut no timber now; it was supplied by contract. They did not pay the dues on timber purchased from the Coast mills. On all outside contracts, including piles, they deducted unless a permit was produced showing the timber to be free from duty. They made a periodical settlement to the crown timber agent of dues due to the government. They assumed all timber supplied them was cut lawfully. The witness when questioned as to the delay in returning the permit stated that they did not attach sufficient importance to the fact that it was necessary to return it immediately. No demand was made by the government agent; they acted in perfect good faith. Ninety per cent. of the timber used came from the Coast. Mr. Higginson had been given a pass over the Pacific division of the road. Mr. Higginson had taken occasion to explain publicly that his pass was a complimentary one, and had not been given to him as crown timber agent. Mr. Higginson explained that about the time the pass was given to him he met with a serious accident on the road, which injured him for life. Mr. Higginson says further,

"I have as much right to travel on my complimentary pass and charge the government usual fares as members of parliament have to charge the country $556 for each trip to Ottawa and return, when the fare is not nearly that sum, the bulk of this amount coming out of the pockets of the industrious farmer and workingman."

Several claims have been staked out in the vicinity of the Bon Accord cannery by Messrs. H. Luckenbach and J. Collier. It is stated some good ore has been found on the surface.

WILL NOT INTERFERE.

Following the Precedent of His Predecessor, McKinley Will Not Recognize Cuba.

The Strongest of Anti-Jingoists Offered the Consul-Generalship at Havana.

WASHINGTON, March 24.—The President has offered the consul-generalship at Havana to William F. Draper of Massachusetts, and General Draper has declined the appointment because he desires a more dignified post. The fact that the President saw fit to offer the post at Havana to such a pronounced opponent of Cuban recognition as Gen. Draper is of itself of high significance regarding the attitude of the administration.

General Draper is the one man in congress, with the exception of Senator Hale, who has not only voted in committee against recognition of the Cubans, but has said repeatedly for publication that he did not believe that they would prosper under an independent government so much as they have under the sovereignity of Spain.

His utterances have run so counter to "Jingo" sentiment that some of his friends have feared that they might injure him with the administration. The fact that in the face of these utterances he is selected, not for some post where they would be of no importance, but for the very post where the "Jingoes" would most dislike to see him, indicates that President McKinley and Secretary Sherman have set their faces openly against interference by the United States in Cuba.

The fact that Senor Estrada Palma, the so-called president of the Cuban Junta in New York, came to Washington and went away seeking a formal interview with the new president, indicates that he had little hope of the results of such an application. He doubtless satisfied himself as to the attitude of the administration and as to the wisdom of seeking a hearing at the White House.

He had no difficulty in learning indirectly that if he went there he would be received as any private citizen or tourist, but that he would no more be recognized as a representative of a sovereign power, or even belligerent insurgents, than the Queen of the Sandwich Islands.

The attitude of the administration has the merit of leaving the Spaniards and Cubans to fight it out between themselves in the island, and the friends of Spain here declare that it will result in the early termination of the insurrection.

DEEP WATERWAY PROMISED.

TORONTO, March 24.—(Special)—An important announcement is made in a letter to the secretary of the board of trade from Hon. Mr. Blair, minister of railways and canals, in which it is stated that the government have decided to push on deepening the St. Lawrence canals, and expect to have a fourteen foot waterway available for traffic by the spring of 1899.

Pennsylvania was the first state in the Union to restrict the sale of passenger tickets to the regularly accredited agents of railroad companies.

According to the deductions of a well known astronomer, we receive as much light from the sun as could be emitted by 680,000 full moons.

THE TRAIL SMELTER.

Its Capacity 560 Tons of Ore Per Day—Busiest Spot in Canada.

Enterprising August Heinze Has Added a Great Smelter to the Dominion's Industries.

(From the Rossland Miner.)

A representative of the Miner spent the greater part of last Monday in looking through the Trail smelter. Great changes have been made since the first furnace was blown in now something more than a year ago. In that period there has not been a day when there was not under consideration or in actual execution some enlargement or improvement. It stands to-day the most triumphant proof that could be given of the resources of the mines about Rossland. This smelter was planned, built and has been operated for the express purpose of treating Rossland ores, and its growth and success in a measure stand for the growth and success of the camp.

When one goes through this vast smelting plant as it stands to-day and understands that the whole of it has been created in so short a time, he cannot fail to be struck with admiration for the wealth of the camp that can support it, as well as the ability and courage required to bring it to so high a point of efficiency. The Trail smelter is a tremendous institution. It and its associated enterprises now represent an investment of over $1,000,000. In August, 1895, the hill upon which the smelter now stands was a bare, untouched piece of ground. To-day it is the busiest spot in the whole Dominion of Canada.

BEGAN ON A SMALL SCALE.

The purpose of this article is to give a sort of retrospect of the development of this vast industrial enterprise. It started with four reverberatory furnaces and one small blast furnace, each of the former having a capacity of about 25 tons a day, and the latter having a capacity of 50 tons a day. Much was to be learned about the treatment of Rossland ores when the smelter was started. The reverberatory furnaces are used almost entirely in Butte, and the little blast furnace was put in as an experiment. It may be appropriate to state here that the reverberatory furnace represents the old English plan of smelting by radiation, whilst the blast furnace represents the German plan of smelting by direct contact.

The ore for the reverberatories is crushed to a fine powder and spread out over the bottom of the furnace. Wood is used for fuel, and is fed in a fire box in the rear, the flames being driven in over the ore bed by a strong blast. For the blast furnace the ore is not crushed to a powder, but is broken up into pieces of the size of a hen's egg, and fed with an intermixture of coke and limestone, the latter being the flux. A strong blast is sent up from below and the flame comes in direct contact with the ore. The blast furnace is the simpler and more economical, but where ores require concentration the reverberatories must be employed, since the concentrates are in the form of a powder.

THE CAPACITY QUADRUPLED.

The first improvement at the Trail smelter was the putting in of a new blast furnace of 200 tons capacity. This means 200 tons of ores and fluxes. The actual ore capacity was 180 tons. This furnace was put in last summer. Hardly had it been put in operation when it became evident that greater capacity would be needed, so an order was placed early last fall for another 200-ton blast furnace. The little 50-ton furnace was then taken out to make room for the new one, which is now just completed and ready to be blown in this week. The little furnace just taken out will be rebuilt as soon as room can be made for it. When these changes are all completed the smelting capacity of the plant will be 560 tons a day.

But it is not proposed to use all the furnaces on ore. A refinery is being built and two of the reverberatory furnaces are to be given up to matte smelting. The ore smelting will be done by the two remaining reverberatories and by the three blast furnaces.

HANDLING OF SLAG AND MATTE.

Late last fall a very important change was made in the disposition of the slag from the furnaces as well as in the treatment of the matte product. A stream of water was run through the works and the molten slag was turned into this and carried off in granulated form. It is a remarkable fact that when molten slag or metal comes in contact with cold running water it immediately granulates. All the slag from the Trail smelter is now carried off down the hill by a stream of water and is deposited like a heap of sawdust.

The copper matte carrying the gold and silver values is also run into a stream of water and is run up through an elevator, being finally deposited in as convenient form for sacking and transportation as sugar or flour. The use of cold water in granulating both the waste and valuable products of the smelter results in a great saving in many ways, and marks a distinct advance in the treatment of ores. While it was known that cold water would granulate molten slag and metal the application of the discovery has nowhere been so successfully applied as in the Trail smelter.

NEW ELECTRIC PLANT.

Another great improvement will be the introduction of electric power. The machinery for this change is all on the ground and will soon be in operation. The water is conducted from two or three mountain streams by steel pipes, and delivered on Felton wheels in a building on the flat below the smelter hill. There is a single descent of 250 feet from the smelter hill to the generating plant below, and the water has a total head of over 300 feet. The power secured is sufficient to generate 200-horse power, which will be ample to supply the dynamos for the entire smelter plant, as well as the lights for all the building and grounds.

CANADA'S FIRST REFINERY.

Perhaps the most important step taken by Mr. Heinze since he commenced the construction of the smelter itself was the addition of a refinery. This involves the expenditure of large capital and the erection of two large buildings. One of these buildings is just completed, and the other one would have been completed by this time had the weather been more favorable.

The one now ready stands behind the main smelter building, and is not seen from the town of Trail on the flat below. This is the roaster building. It covers two large roasting furnaces. The other building, which is just behind it and on the brow of the high bluff overlooking the Columbia, will be the refinery proper. The foundations are just being completed, and the superstructure will be erected very speedily. It is hoped to have the electric plant and refinery in operation within sixty days.

THE MATTE AND ITS VALUE.

The product of the matte at the present time is copper matte. This runs from 40 per cent to 80 per cent copper, carrying also the gold in the ore and what little silver there may be. This matte is shipped away to refineries in various parts of the United States.

WORK OF THE REFINERY.

When the refinery of the Trail smelter is in operation there will be no more shipments of matte to American refineries. Both the gold and silver will be extracted here at home and will be made ready for the mint. It is not yet definitely determined just what degree of finish will be given to the copper. This will depend very largely upon commercial conditions. The completion of the refinery will be an important event in the history of British Columbia and Canada. Then for the first time will our own gold and silver be converted from the crude ore of the mines to the commercial products in the markets of the world. This looks like getting on a self-sustaining basis. It will be a proud day for Rossland when this happy achievement is accomplished by the Trail smelter.

THE FUEL QUESTION.

It must not be supposed the progress of the Trail smelter to its present state of prosperity and success has been without its serious drawbacks and hindrances. There has never been a time when there was a doubt or any serious difficulty connected with the treatment of the Rossland ores, but the fuel question has often caused grave trouble. Some of the coke has been brought from Wales. Some of it has been shipped from Pennsylvania. Then again the Puget Sound coke was tried. Much wood was used, but the wood had to be used before it was well seasoned, owing to the desire to get under way. Coal is very expensive, and it is almost impossible to secure regular delivery at Trail.

It is for the solution of the fuel problem that the Crow's Nest Pass road is so much desired. Coal is now $12 a ton and coke $13 a ton. The Crow's Nest Pass road is expected to deliver both coal and coke at half the prices or even less.

FUTURE OF THE INDUSTRY.

What is the future of the smelting and refining industry, established so successfully at Trail by Mr. Heinze? If so much has been done in a little over a year, what will be done in five years? When Mr. Heinze blew in his furnaces he had as a guarantee of ore supply a contract with the La Roi company for 37,500 tons of ore, with a conditioned contract for 37,500 tons additional. This contract is still running and in force, but a great deal of ore from other mines in the camp has been treated, and now Mr. Heinze has just fortified himself by purchasing the Kootenay and Columbia mine at the price of $500,000.

HEINZE'S ASTONISHING ENTERPRISE.

He has built a railroad from his smelter to the Rossland camp, and is now building another railroad up the Columbia river, so that he can draw the silver-lead ores from the Slocan. But he has gone much father than this. He has practically completed arrangements to penetrate the great Boundary mining country with a railroad this season, and when this line is built his smelter will have a new and inexhaustible field to draw from. The possibilities of this enterprise within the scope of five years are not to be described at the present further than to say that Trail is destined to be one the greatest smelting and refining centres in the world.

POETIC JUSTICE.

WILLIAMSPORT, Pa., March 24.—A terrible retribution is the view now taken of an accident that occurred on the Northern Central railway near Canton two weeks ago in which a passenger train killed three persons, Lorin Lavaucher, his wife and their child. They were riding in a wagon and were struck at a crossing.

Their death has disclosed a secret of 17 years standing. The publication of the accident attracted the attention of relatives in Indiana, from whom it has been learned that the Lavauchers eloped from Gas City, Ind., seventeen years ago, he deserting his wife. The woman with whom he ran away was his wife's sister. They came to Bradford county, Pa., and settled on a small farm. Three children were born to them, the youngest of whom was killed with them.

A TACOMA STORY.

John L. Hopkins and Steve Delacey got to sparring about facts and figures yesterday afternoon, but both escaped without any body blows. The trouble arose over some statements made by John L. to the effect that babies sometimes talk when only six months old. Steve doubted it. So did Phil Kershaw and others who heard Hopkins talking about it.

"This case," said Hopkins, "is reported by a Seattle friend and you can judge for yourself." Delacey prepared to be convinced. "The child was only six months old and it had been very sick. The doctor was talking to the mother, and when he was about to leave he stated positively that he could do nothing for her child. The mother was greatly alarmed and earnestly asked if nothing could be done. In a firm, distinct voice the doctor answered: "A-b-s-o-l-u-t-e-l-y n-o-t-h-i-n-g."

"And the baby said, "A-b-s-o-l-u-t-e-l-y n-o-t-h-i-n-g?" Then it turned over and died."—Tacoma Union.

After sending to Europe for a zither a Herman, Mo., man was disgusted to receive one which had been manufactured in his own state.

The "Brasher $16 gold piece," which was struck at Newburg, N.Y., in 1786, was the first upon which "E Pluribus Unum" appeared.