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THE COTTAGE CITY CALLED AS USUAL

LANDED NINE OF HER SALOON PASSENGERS

C.P.N. Company Will Run Cheap Excursions to Vancouver—Visiting Yachts Arrive in Port.

Victoria's midnight northern steamer, the Cottage City, arrived at 12 o'clock last night, proceeding to the Sound a few hours later. She carried sixty passengers, and landed nine here, four of these being tourists, who went to the Mount Baker, and another being Mrs. Ellis, wife of the customs collector on the Stikine. Dawson advices brought by the steamer report that the steamer Columbian, on her last trip up the river, carried $200,000 in gold dust.

The first news from Rampart since winter gives the output representing the spring clean-up as $300,000.

Advices from Bettles, in the Koyukuk country, under date of May 14th, state that 1,500 men are expected to come to the camp this season. The gross product of gold by the camp this season is estimated by Mr. Richmond and associates at Bettles at $250,000, to be distributed as follows: Gold creek, $70,000; Hammond and branches, $60,000; Gold bench, $40,000; Emma, $30,000; Myrtle, $20,000; Union, $15,000; Linda, $10,000; Slate, $5,000. Total, $250,000.

Vice-president and General Manager A. B. Newell, of the White Pass, announces that his company does not intend to go into the merchandising business in the general acceptance of the term, but intends chiefly to keep itself in a position to supply its traffic friends with staples in case of emergencies where there is likelihood of them being forced into a corner by competition. He says: "The White Pass is not to give rebates this year. The company feels that since the rates are reasonably low, rebates need not be given. The rebates last year were graduated in accordance with the volume of freight shipped by each concern. It is too early to form any idea as to how shipments in total into the Yukon will compare with those of last year, but there is nothing to show that they will be under those of last season. Our company will operate all its steamers this season except the little Anglian."

AMERICAN SHIPPERS COMPLAIN.

"The owners of the big fleet of windjammers which ply between Puget Sound and the Australian ports are raising a decided 'hoot' over the laws passed by the federated colonies, which impose a customs duty on every ounce of stores used by a foreign ship in those waters," says the Seattle Times. "The tax is not a nominal one, but all that the traffic will bear, and is even arbitrary.

"J. J. Smith, one of the biggest shipowners on the Pacific Coast, is in receipt of bills from the masters of two of his vessels which recently arrived in the Antipodes, which offer a practical illustration of this new legislation. The barkentine Jane L. Stanford reached Melbourne on April 30th last and at once the customs people sealed up everything aboard of her tighter than a drum. Her skipper raised an objection, of course, when he saw everything eatable in sight being put out of his way, and then he was informed that if he desired to use any of his stores he would have to pay duty, and should he thereafter desire to release any part of his stores he must make application to the customs service, and upon payment of the proper tax they would be released. On a quart bottle of whisky, two shillings and fourpence; two bottles of wine (one-third of a gallon), two shillings; twenty-four pounds of sugar, one shilling and fourpence; 200 pounds of flour, five shillings; fifty pounds of butter, twelve shillings and sixpence; twenty-five pounds of codfish, two shillings and a penny; twenty pounds of bacon, five shillings; ten pounds of lard, tenpence; seventy-two pounds of preserved meats, twelve shillings; 100 pounds of salted meats, four shillings and sixpence; and five gallons of vinegar, two shillings and sixpence."

VISITING YACHT.

Lying in the bay to-day is the well known American yacht Rambler, belonging to Willard B. Cook, of Seattle. The schooner-rigged craft came in from the Sound yesterday afternoon, having left Port Townsend in the morning and made a fast run across the Straits. Aboard is a small party, composed of Mr. and Mrs. Cook and two gentlemen friends who came here for the coronation festivities, but who, learning that these had been postponed on account of His Majesty's illness, did not regret coming. "I never regret coming to your city," said Mr. Cook when told of the postponement of the coronation. "I always have a good time when I come to your city, and will spend two or three days here." The Rambler belongs to the Seattle Yacht Club, and is always a participant in any important races held on the Sound. She carries a neat little launch which conveys her passengers to and from shore, or in whatever still waters they like to travel.

PORTLAND DISAPPEARED.

Steamer Ohio, which arrived at Seattle from Nome yesterday, and which left the northern port on the 10th inst., brought further news of the steamer Portland, last seen drifting towards the Arctic. Natives on Nunivak island reported three weeks before she sailed having seen a steamer flying signals of distress and then disappearing suddenly as though beneath the ice with which she was surrounded.

THE FORARIC CHARTERED.

F. W. Peters, Pacific Coast agent of the Union Steamship Company, New Zealand, received a cablegram yesterday announcing that the British steamer Foraric would arrive between the 15th and 20th of August. The steamer Foraric is a steamer of 5,000 tons carrying capacity. Her principal cargo outward will consist of flour, as large orders for that commodity have been received from Australian jobbing houses. The demand for Canadian flour in the Antipodes has been caused by the continued drought in the interior and northern districts of Australia. On the return voyage from Sydney the Foraric will call at Suva and load raw sugar for the British Columbia sugar refinery.

ARRIVED FOR CELEBRATION.

The handsome steam yacht Mou Ping, with Manager Rogers, of the B. C. Sugar Refinery, and party aboard, arrived from Vancouver last night and will remain over until Sunday in port. The trip was planned in view of the coronation celebration, and it was only when ready to start on the voyage that the party learned of the sudden illness of the King. Among those who arrived on the graceful little pleasure craft were Mrs. Rogers, Capt. Phillips, of R. M. S. Aorangi, who returned to Vancouver on the Charmer last night, and Mr. Plunkett, a prominent legal gentleman of Vancouver.

FAITH IN GLADE.

Faith is still high among a number of speculators in reinsurance that the German barque H. F. Glade will arrive at her destination or be heard from, though the long overdue vessel was to be posted in London yesterday at Lloyd's as missing. The Glade is now out 269 days from San Francisco for Europe, with a cargo of wheat and barley, and has never been heard from since leaving the Golden Gate.

PROGRESSIVE PARTY.

Meeting at Vancouver Committee Chosen to Draft By-Laws.

W. J. Lamrick, president of the Vancouver Trades and Labor Council, presided on Tuesday night at the meeting of the Provincial Progressive Party in the O'Brien hall, Vancouver. The attendance was large, some 60 or 70 signing the roll of members.

After some brief remarks by the chairman, as to the necessity of the working people taking steps towards organizing a branch of the party in the city, he read the platform, which was loudly applauded.

J. H. Watson said that he had been elected by the Kamloops convention on its executive, and was appointed to look after the formation of a branch in this city. He paid a high tribute to the endeavors of the delegates, who earnestly tried to do something that would benefit the masses of this province. He moved the following motion: "Resolved, that this meeting assembled, form a branch of the Provincial Progressive Party, and proceed to elect officers and a committee for the working of and the drawing up of by-laws for the same. Also that we hereby invite the business and professional men and all workingmen of this city, irrespective of creed and color, to come members and active workers in the party."

T. H. Cross came forward to second the resolution. He said that he was fortunate in being a delegate to the Kamloops convention, and was very much impressed with the "oneness" of the convention in its most harmonious actions.

Chris. Foley, of Rossland, president of the Provincial Progressive Party, was received with an ovation. He spoke for two hours on the issues of the day. There was but one hope for the masses of this country, and unless they united to enact laws that would protect the pauper alike with the millionaire the future was indeed deplorable to contemplate. We imported some $2,500,000 worth of produce each year to this province. And this only could be decreased by the breaking-up of the land monopoly that cursed this province. He said that East Kootenay, which was some 200 miles long, by 25 miles wide, with its climate and fertile land, equal to that of California, was practically all owned and controlled by monopolies. He also instanced several other large districts, among which the Okanagan valley was named, practically out of the reach of the people. These large uninhabited regions were contrasted with Kelowna, where small holdings were the general rule.

The speaker here dealt exhaustively with monopolies, and said that the most dangerous of them all to the wage-earners were the railroads and transportation companies, which in this country not only regulated the wages of the land but enforced them by bringing in hordes of aliens to take the places of strikers. He showed why the business community, as well as others, should support the principle of compulsory arbitration. In the past twenty years half a billion had been lost to America in wages through strikes, besides the great amounts in business. The truck system was now prevailing in some places, and the system was condemned. "We've got laws called 'labor laws,'" said the speaker, "but in reality they are only sop, and are not enforced at all." And these conditions can only be changed by workmen going into politics. Any man who studied the platform would see that it was not one of class legislation, but of progress in keeping with the times.

The resolution was unanimously carried amid much applause.

The following were chosen as a committee to draft by-laws and procure members: H. Cowan, W. George, George Payne, T. H. Cross, J. G. Davison, George Lockie, J. H. Watson.

TWO MEN MISSING.

It is Feared They Were Drowned While Trying to Land on Island.

Kingston, Ont., June 24.—It is supposed that Hiram Marlow and his son George, of Wolfe island, have been drowned, as they have been missing for three days. On Saturday the father and son rented a skiff and started to row to the island to spend Sunday. They were seen near the island at dusk battling with the waves there being a stiff breeze blowing at the time. They failed to land, and this evening the skiff was found in Cedar island a couple of miles from where it was last seen. There has not been any trace of the bodies.

The gold medal offered by the Paris council for the most numerous and best behaved family of children has been won by a couple named Galles, parents of thirteen youngsters.

ALL THE SCHOOLS ARE NOW CLOSED

YESTERDAY AFTERNOON'S CLOSING EXERCISES

To-Day Is the First Day of the Midsummer Holidays—More Promotion Lists.

VICTORIA WEST.

The closing exercises of the Victoria West school, which were held in Semple's hall at 10.30 yesterday, showed up the work and training of the pupils to good advantage. The hall was crowded with parents and friends of the pupils, who, judging by the frequent applause, were greatly pleased with the programme provided. Trustees Dr. Lewis Hall, Beaumont Boggs and J. H. S. Matson were present, and each, after a few neat remarks, presented the rolls of honor and and prizes to the successful pupils. The trustees complimented Principal Winsby and his staff of assistants on the general efficiency of the school, and the manner in which the exercises were carried out. They also spoke of their earnest desire to have a new school in Victoria West, and expressed a hope that this time next year would see it in course of erection.

The principal during his remarks thanked Trustee Boggs for the prizes he presented in the shape of a bat for the most popular boy in each of the three highest divisions. Mr. Matson and Dr. Hall were also thanked for the presentation of a mask and a baseball respectively to the school baseball club.

The programme, roll of honor and prize lists follows:

Song, "Voices of Spring, divisions 2, 3 and 4; recitation, "Vacation is Here," Horace Gladding; song, "Cuckoo," eight boys from division 5; recitation, "Domestic Asides," Nellie Fairall; recitation, "Choosing a Kitten," George Williscroft; song, "Up Yonder on the Mountains," disivions 5 and 6; recitation, "The Goblins," Agnes McLachlan; song, "Won't You Buy My Pretty Flowers?" Viola Semple, accompanyist, Olle Fawcett; recitation, "Little Tin Soldiers," Lillie Callow; piano duet, Elizabeth Rowe and May Kirk; recitation, "Jack in the Pulpit," H. Dixon; song, Frances Darg; recitation, "Somebody's Mother," Herbert Atkins; song, "The Worm," divisions 5 and 6; piano solo, Elsie Tennent; recitation, "His New Brother," Wilfrid Pomeroy; song, "Hail Canada to Thee," divisions 2, 3 and 4.

Rolls of Honor.

Division II.—Proficiency, Henry Kelly; deportment, Elizabeth Mary Rowe; regularity and punctuality, Marian Jane Dumolfe.

Division III.—Proficiency, Katheen Todd; deportment, Gladys Florence Walker; punctuality and regularity, Otto Muller.

Division IV.—Proficiency, Geo. Murdock; W. Willliscroft; deportment, Kathleen Emma Stirtan; punctuality and regularity, Muriel Elizabeth Stirtan.

Division V.—Proficiency, George Wm. Settington; deportment, Constance Maud Walker; regularity and punctuality, William John Mitchell.

Trustee Boggs prizes: Most popular boy in division 1, Cecil Jeeves; division 2, Walter Crocker; division 3, Alex. McDougall.

ST. ANN'S CONVENT.

The St. Ann's Academy commencement exercises were held yesterday afternoon, a large number being present. Among the visitors were Lieut.-Governor Joly, Bishop Orth, Rear-Admiral Bickford and Mayor Hayward. After the programme an address was given by Sir Henri Joly. The following programme was rendered:

Professional march, L. Ringuet; "Sweet Days of Gladness" (Rossini), words by Miss G. Dunlevy, Miss H. Englehardt, Miss R. Meissinger, essay, "A Little Knowledge is a Dangerous Thing," Miss H. Englehardt; musical and recitative, "The Highland Heroes," Seniors; Hungarische Tanze, Brahms; essay, "A Nineteenth Century Singer, Miss Meissinger; chorus, "Salve Regina," Doss; "The Seasons," Medley; fantasia brilliante, Dunroe; essay, "Value of Trifles," Miss Dunlevy.

Presentation of gold and silver medals and class honors.

Conferring of certificates for piano on Misses A. McQuade, B. Stevart, M. Gaxiola, N. Hutchinson, B. Gaudin, T. Mellon, G. Navarre.

Certificates for commercial course.—Shorthand and typewriting, Misses M. Godfrey, F. Healy, R. Taylor, W. Buckett, G. Pope, L. Wilkins, W. Martin; bookkeeping, Miss M. Godfrey, F. Healy, W. Andrews; "God Save the King."

Academic Honor.

1. Gold medal for good conduct and improvement in manner, presented by Miss Godfrey and awarded to Miss Grace Navarre. Special premium for French needlework.

2. Second premium for good conduct, elocution and excellence of her class; also first P. French, 1st grade awarded to Miss Eva Marymont.

3. Gold medal for Christian Doctrine, awarded to Miss Anna McQuade. Special premium for literature, rhetoric, physical geography.

4. Second premium, Christian Doctrine, gold heart, awarded to Miss Dolle Case. Premium for spelling, music, elementary course, sewing.

5. Silver medal, presented by His Excellency Earl Minto, Governor-General of Canada, awarded for general application to Miss Mary Brown, Nellie Lombard, Rose Silver, Nancy Clark, Nettie Luckie, Anna Gillis, won by Miss Mary Brown.

6. Second premium, silver medal, general application and plain and ornamental needlework, awarded to Miss Agnes Gleason. Premium, excellence algebra, bookkeeping, music, elementary section.

7. Second premium for needlework, order and neatness and penmanship, awarded to Miss Helen Coleman.

8. Gold medal, awarded to first vocal class drawn by the Misses Gertrude Dunlevy, R. Messinger, M. Gavola, G. Navarre, N. Hutchinson, won by M. Garretson. Honorable mention for good conduct, order and neatness, and French, 3rd grade.

9. Gold cross, awarded to Miss Rose Silver for excellence of her class. Premium for regular attendance.

10. Second premium for regular attendance, awarded to Miss Nettie Lockie, also 2nd penmanship.

11. Silver medal for painting and drawing, drawn by the Misses M. Gaxiola, Elsie Lubbe, Maud Brown, Rena McLean, Edna Cook, Henrietta Weaver, Laura Weaver, Grace Long, won by Elsie Lubbe.

12. Medal presented to Miss Nellie Brown by her grandfather for drawing, music, good conduct and politeness.

13. Special premium for highest average in Canadian history, presented by Mrs. Dr. Watt, awarded to Miss H. Munro. Second premium, Miss Mamie McInnes.

14. Premium for order and neatness and obliging manners, awarded to Miss Olive Dawson.

15. Premium, politeness, Miss Ella Allen, geography, spelling, needlework.

16. Premium for attendance, Minnie Hofer.

ST. LOUIS COLLEGE.

The commencement exercises of the St. Louis College were held yesterday morning, when the Governor-General's medal was awarded to Miss Rita McDonald for assiduity.

The following is the list of promotions:

To Junior Fifth—John Sweeney, Francis Baylis, Edward McQuade, Joseph McArthur, James Locke.

To High Fourth—Rita McDonald, G. McKinnon, Arthur Baines, F. Sweeney.

From the third reader, 1st division, to the third reader, second division—P. O'Rourke, T. O'Rourke, N. Morrison, M. Keappock, Frank Grimm, T. Bate, H. Silver, R. McDonald.

From the third reader, second division, to the fourth reader—A. Agar, A. Ecken, F. Locke, P. Melina, R. Colbert, F. Calhoun, J. Casavane, E. Flannigan, R. Hickey, P. McDonald, J. McNeil, M. Olsen, L. Lawless, L. Traynor, F. Campbell, M. McKinnon, E. McKinnon, L. Tribe.

From second reader to third reader—D. Summerville, K. O'Rorke, A. Luckovich, P. Centi, P. Agar, E. Curran, R. Bertucci, F. Calhoun, G. Medina, J. Enos.

From first reader to second reader—Frances Hickey, T. McDonald, C. Baylis, J. Campbell, J. King, Ada Wolfe, Otto Grimm, Gypsey Switzer, Daniel McBrady, Rodolphe Bate.

From second primer to first reader—Emile Clausen, Maggie McDonald, C. Campbell, James McDonald, May Alfaros, Madeline Colbert, Mary Lawless, S. McDonald, Georgie McDougall, Lloyd Shore, Albert Bate, Eva McDougall, Dorothy Wallace, Irene Wallace, Katie Olsen, Eddie Harris.

From first primer to second reader—Dorcy Danes, J. Enos, Mike Frederico, Edward McLellan, Olga Bossi, Rose Lawless, Vivian Colbert, Martha McDonald, Norah O'Rorke.

List of Premiums.

Fifth Reader—John Sweeney, first prize for geography, literature; 2nd, Christian doctrine. Edward McQuade, 1st English history, algebra, physiology. Joseph McArthur, 1st prize for Christian doctrine, 2nd, history, deportment, reading. James Locke, 1st prize for grammar, spelling, dictation.

Fourth Reader—Rita McDonald, 1st prize for deportment, punctuality, English history and composition. Frank Sweeney, 1st prize for arithmetic, spelling, grammar, dictation. Leslie Shore, 1st prize for geography, history. Arthur Baines, 1st prize for penmanship, Canadian history. Francis Baylis, honorable mention for Christian doctrine, arithmetic, diligence.

Third Reader, Division I.—M. Lawless, Fr. Grimm, Frank Grimm, deportment; M. Reappock, grammar; P. O'Rourke, arithmetic; N. Morrison, reading; P. O'Rourke, geography; M. Keappock, Christian doctrine; M. Hansel, Bible history; E. Leblanc, penmanship; T. O'Rourke, H. Silver, T. Bate, regular attendance; P. McQuade and H. Silver, general proficiency.

Third Reader, Division II.—P. Medina, general proficiency; A. Eker, spelling; J. Casanave, geography; R. Colbert, second general proficiency; Geo. Tribe, second geography; M. McKinnon, reading and spelling; E. Trainor, second reading; E. McKinnon, spelling; A. Agar, third geography; P. McDonald, fourth geography; R. Hickey, perseverince; Fr. Locke, arithmetic; L. Lawless, deportment.

Second Reader—A. Luckovich, general proficiency; G. Medina, arithmetic; K. O'Rourke, spelling; D. Sommerville, second spelling; R. Bertucci, deportment; Ph. Agar, second general proficiency; Eva Curran, reading; P. Conti, Fr. Calhoun, J. Enos, general proficiency.

First Reader—T. McDonald, first catechism, second arithmetic, second spelling; catechism, second writing; Charlie Baliis, first nature study, first reading, second spelling; J. Campbell, first arithmetic, first reading, second spelling; J. King, first order and neatness, first home exercises; Ada Wolfe, first writing, first politeness; Gypsey Switzer, second arithmetic; Otto Grimm, first deportment, second reading.

Second Primer—Emile Clansen, first reading, first arithmetic; Maggie McDonald, first spelling; Christina Campbell, first arithmetic; James McDonald, first spelling.

First Primer—Rose Lawless, first reading, first spelling and arithmetic; Jennie Enos, first deportment; Vivian Colbert, first reading; Martha McDonald, first writing.

WHOLESALE MARKET.

The following quotations are Victoria wholesale prices paid for farm produce this week:

Potatoes (new), per lb.	$ 2¼
Potatoes (Island), per ton	10.00
Carrots per 100 lbs.	1.00
Parsnips, per 100 lbs.	1.00
Cabbage, per 100 lbs.	1.50
Butter (creamery), per lb.	25
Butter (dairy), per lb.	22½
Eggs (ranch), per doz.	22½
Chickens, per doz.	3.50@ 6.00
Hay, per ton	10.00
Oats, per ton	28.00@30.00
Barley, per ton	25.00
Wheat, per ton	28.00
Beef, per lb.	8@ 9
Mutton, per lb.	9@ 10
Pork, per lb.	9
Veal, per lb.	10@ 11

THE IRON RESOURCES OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Report of a Special Committee Which Was Submitted at the Last Meeting of the Voters' League—Some Suggestions.

Below is published the full report which P. R. Smith, for the committee on iron and steel manufacture, read at Tuesday night's meeting of the Voters' League.

We, your committee appointed to investigate the resources of this province in iron ores with a view of determining the economic value of the same, together with a comparison in cost of manufacture, and prospective markets should smelting and rolling mills be established, beg to make the following report:

Ore Deposits.

Your committee find that very large deposits of magnetite ores are to be found within the districts of Victoria, Alberni coast, Nanaimo, Bella Coola, Cariboo, Similkameen, Kamloops and Queen Charlotte Islands. Hematite also exists, the extent of which remains as yet a matter of conjecture. Prospectors are now looking up these properties and fuller information will be available to your committee within a short time.

Locations.

Of the developed properties, upon which a value from an economic standpoint may be based, those of the Texada Island may be cited. It is here the Puget Sound Iron Co. own 2,700 acres situated on the southwest side of the island. Sufficient development has taken place to expose an ore body estimated by experts as representing 8,000,000 tons of commercially valuable iron which gives a detailed test of from 68 to 70 per cent. iron, and comparatively free from objectionable properties. Arrangements have been made to transport this ore by a gravity tramway 1,100 feet in length and 500 feet above sea level, with the intention of making regular shipments to the smelter at Irondale, Washington. Here the ore is subjected to a mixture of from 1-9 to 3-10 of bog ore obtained near Hamilton, Skagit County. From this an excellent foundry pig is made, and was utilized in building the United States war vessels Olympia, Monterey, Charleston and Oregon, by the Union Iron Works Co., of San Francisco. Experts have pronounced this a superior article to the Eastern manufacture, and it is certainly a compliment to the British Columbia magnetite ores. Of other properties upon which development work has taken place, mention may be made of the Serata, with an ore body of 80 feet wide, a depth of 90 feet, with an easterly extension of considerable distance; over 800 feet has been crosscutted with excellent results. The Copper Island and Sheshart have each an ore width of over 100 feet, a tunnel has been made at the latter of 200 feet wide with a depth of 800, a very extensive body of limestone lying contiguous to the property. On the Copper Island a tunnel of 100 feet wide and of the same depth has exposed a vein from 15 to 20 feet, assaying 60 per cent. iron and no impurities. This has been traced for over half a mile, and described as one of unlimited supply. Hermatite deposits lie in close proximity. These mines are situated in the Barkley district and are bonded by an American syndicate who expect within a short time to expend three million dollars in the erection of smelter and rolling mills. The Redonda mine is situated on the north shore of West Redonda Island, the north shore of which rises abruptly from the sea to a height of over 3,000 feet. The ore outcrop is situated at an altitude of 450 feet, a foothold to this rapid rise being afforded only by the standing timber. In 1893, 623 tons of magnetite ore were shipped to the Oswego Iron & Steel Co.'s furnaces in Oregon. This work exposed an open face of solid magnetite 30 feet wide by 30 feet in height, assaying 66 per cent. per ton. No further work has been recorded, and owing to the peculiar situation little is known of the extent of this deposit.

The Glen iron mine at Cherry Bluff, near Kamloops, on the line of the C. P. R., is another which has produced in a small way. The product of this mine is of excellent quality, 66-83 per cent. metallic iron, and the annual output of from 500 to 2,000 tons being conveyed by aerial tramway to the C. P. R. tracks. This ore has been extensively used for flushing purposes by the smelters of Tacoma, Revelstoke and Nelson. The estimated ore in sight being given at 2,000,000 tons.

The Kootenay river deposits reported by Dr. Dawson are quite extensive, and are of a magnetite character, their situation renders them of little commercial value, lacking facilities for cheap transportation.

Another extensive deposit of a hermatite formation was discovered by Mr. Ludloff, a German geologist, in the Cariboo district. This measures 500 feet in thickness, and, like the former mine, is of little value with the present means of communication.

At Port Renfrew a vein of 100 feet in width has been located, and this is situated some seven miles from tide water and assays 68.8 per cent. iron.

A tunnel at Rivers Inlet 100 feet wide with a corresponding depth has exposed a vein of 30 feet width, assaying some 69 per cent. iron. Little is known by record of the two latter deposits beyond that here stated.

In addition to the forementioned properties, deposits of a more or less extensive nature have been discovered at Sooke, Chemainus, Toba and Knight's Inlets, Comox, Nootka Sound, Bella Coola, Alberni, Graham and Moresby Islands, Similkameen, and other points, showing conclusively that iron ore deposits are not confined to any particular locality. It is an undoubted fact that immense bodies of both magnetite and hermatite lay awaiting development the moment demand and favorable conditions exist for iron and steel production.

Quality.

The investigations of your committee show that while quantity is a prime factor in the distribution of iron deposits throughout the province, the quality and commercial value of the same is of the highest order.

Numerous assays have been made and tests applied in England, Scotland, Pittsburg, and indeed many of the leading iron laboratories of the world, in which the iron ores of this province have not only held their own, but have been proved superior to many now used in course of iron production. Space alone prevents your committee from giving a resume of analysis in this report, but they can be tabulated if it is the wish of this meeting, and filed for future reference.

Shipping Conditions.

A peculiar feature of the iron distribution on the East and West Coasts lay in their accessibility to deep water shipment. Many of the deposits are situated at the very edge of ocean navigation, with sufficient grade for chuting the ore into bins at Salt water. It is stated in some locations ore can be quarried at 20 cents per ton and delivered on board of steel scows for 30 cents or less. In this respect an advantage is possessed by the Coast properties over the Island deposits, another important factor is the abundance of timber for making charcoal. The immediate deposits of limestone and coal, together with magnificent water power stretches for generating light and motive powers all point that nature has destined this province as the workshop of the world.

Cost of Manufacture Here and Elsewhere.

This is a phase of the inquiry in which your committee have experienced difficulty. The short time allotted for report has not afforded us an opportunity of collecting data upon the subject, and in view of the comprehensive reports now being received by the provincial government from British consular agents residing within spheres of the iron industry, together with the increased rate of wages paid on the Coast to labor, we deem it advisable to leave this question subject to future investigation and report. We are satisfied, however, with the favorable conditions mentioned elsewhere, and that the abundance of raw materials other than iron will more than offset any difference arising from a wage comparison.

As showing the difference in point of supply and manufacture between the Irondale smelter in Washington and the Collingwood of Ontario, your committee submit the following as a probable estimate. It must be remembered that it requires two tons of iron ore to produce one ton of pig. At the Irondale smelter the Texada ores are laid down as undermentioned:

Mining and delivery of two tons ore at $1 per ton ..... $ 2 00
Freight on same at $1 per ton 2 00
Royalty, at 50c. per ton 1 00
Unloading 39
Duty 43
Total per ton of pig iron ..... $ 5 19

Collingwood smelter: Ore supplied by the Superior Power Co., owning the Hermitage, at $1.20 per ton, 1 2-3 ton, $2.6 per ton pig.

Estimated cost of manufacture, Collingwood smelter:	
Ore, 1 2-3 tons at $1.20 per ton	$ 2 11
Fuel, 1,800 lbs. coke, at $4 per ton	3 60
Lime	15
Labor	1 65
Maintenance and interest, 10 per cent.	1 25
Power, oil, etc.	25
Office	25
Total	$ 8 74
Probable estimate to Irondale smelter:	
Ore, 2 tons at $3.05	$ 6 10
Fuel, 1,800 lbs. coke	3 60
Lime	15
Labor, 100 per cent. additional	2 19
Maintenance and interest, 10 per cent.	1 25
Power, oil, etc.	25
Office	25
Total	$13 75

Or a difference of about $5 per ton.

The estimated cost of ore to the Irondale smelter would suffer a material reduction if smelted on the West Coast, owing to the abundance of raw materials on the spot, and a saving in the freighting, unloading and duty. If the Dominion bounty of $3 per ton were taken from the cost, the local manufacture would be brought down to $10.75 per ton or less. In establishing the iron industry on this side of the line an immediate demand would be created for lime, charcoal, coal, coke, and a dozen and one necessities, requiring the employment of large numbers of skilled and unskilled laborers. This would give a stimulus and lead to the establishment of many other industries little thought of at present. A permanency would be thus attained and a rapid development would take place, leaving the Pacific base of supply practically in our hands.

Markets.

This is a subject which might, in conjunction with the foregoing chapter, be referred for future report. In addition to observations on the cost of manufacturing, reliable information is now being received by the bureau of information on iron consumption. This should be disseminated as early as possible, for upon this question lies the immediate or future establishment of smelters and rolling mills. The conclusive returns in the hands of your committee are of small value to manufacturers or capitalists; but probable markets may be found to exist for a British Columbia product in Japan, a large consumer with little or no iron of her own; China, Mexico, Guatemala, San Salvador, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Republic of Columbia, Philippine Islands, Venezuela, Ecquador, British East Indies, and possibly Australia. It is worthy of note that Japan alone imports from all countries iron and steel manufactures of $16,000,000 value—an increase of 100 per cent. over the preceding year.

It will be seen at a glance that these markets, if supplied by Canada, must, owing to transcontinental railway charges, depend upon Pacific Coast mills and factories. With unhampered restrictions upon the raw material from British Columbia, it is possible that our energetic neighbors might arise to the occasion and become formidable competitors. Much depends at the present juncture on the uses made of our opportunities. Your committee are of the opinion that this question has not been entered upon too soon.

Imports of Iron and Steel.

As showing the extent of the home market, the following figures are taken from the Statistical Year Book on imported iron and steel manufactures, exception being taken on ship's boilers, fish hooks, printing presses, tin plate, sheets, etc.

Year Ending 30th June.

	Dutiable.	Free.	Total.
1892	$ 9,968,499	$2,673,033	$12,641,442
1893	10,113,177	3,080,346	13,190,223
1894	8,776,553	2,554,238	11,310,771
1895	7,405,023	1,835,826	9,240,749
1896	8,463,747	2,488,860	10,952,607
1897	8,666,497	1,947,133	10,613,630
1898	12,691,777	3,864,989	16,556,766
1899	15,621,346	4,147,379	19,768,725
1900	22,299,073	7,139,160	36,429,233
1901	18,738,135	8,042,323	26,780,458

Total 10 years: Dutiable, $122,734,012; free, $37,778,287; or a grand total of free and dutiable imports of $160,512,899 for the past ten years.

Dominion Government Bounty on Steel.

Recognizing the immense advantages accruing to the Dominion in being enabled to provide for the ever-increasing demand for iron and steel, the Dominion government offers a bounty of $3 per ton on pig iron made from Canadian ores, and $2 per ton on foreign, and a further sum of $3 per ton on steel ingots. This bounty is reduced 20 per cent. per annum after the 23rd day of April, 1902. It is possible, however, owing to the success attending its efforts, that an extension might be given for several years—until, perhaps, 1907. This aid has been supplemented by the Ontario government, which has added $1 per ton for pig iron manufactured in Ontario from Ontario ores. This provision, with other concessions, has led to the establishment of the steel industry upon a substantial basis, and a corresponding prosperity in the provinces wherein located.

Owing, however, to the rapidly increasing demand in consequence of internal development, it will be some time before any perceptible impression is made upon the imports, and a splendid field is afforded in this province for further extension in this direction.

Lack of Provincial Information.

It is greatly to be regretted that so little information is forthcoming upon such an important subject from official sources, and it is to be hoped the government will see its way clear to keep one or two practical men constantly in the field—thus enabling it to keep in closer touch with the development now going on—reporting upon fresh locations and supplying capitalists with reliable information as to our mineral wealth.

The question of re-staking claims demands immediate attention. Gross abuses of the present act exist, and many good locations are tied up, which greatly affects any attempt at development.

Reticence of Prospectors.

The best information obtainable on the character of magnetite and hematite deposits is at present in the possession of private prospectors. Your committee have interviewed a number of these gentlemen, and it would appear that considerable activity is going on at the present time in the interests of wealthy syndicates having in view the immediate establishment of smelters and rolling mills. It is owing to this fact that little can be gleaned from private prospectors. They represent to your committee that being under engagement to the companies referred to they are not at liberty at the present time to give out any information. When this has been presented to their principals, we are led to believe that the league will be placed in possession of information regarding a number of unreported properties.

Impressions.

In pursuing the investigations called for, we have been particularly impressed with the immense distribution which has taken place by nature of the raw materials throughout this province, and particularly so of the Island of Vancouver. At a period in our history when the various manufacturing interests of the world have been brought to such a perfected state and increasing at a rapid ratio each year, it would appear to us that the time must be necessarily short before world-wide attention is directed this way. From the manufacturing possibilities presented to us by the great wealth lying dormant in forest and sea, from a harnessing of electricity to the water powers of the West Coast to assist in bringing about a cheaper method of production in man's requirements, much is to be expected. The importance of such factors few appears to realize, and of the future that lies before us how much remains with ourselves in bringing it about in our own time, thus replacing present conditions with those of a happier nature.

Suggestions.

In suggesting to the league methods which we think would prove beneficial and tend toward the immediate development of the iron industry in this province, your committee have written to the bureau of information for the province of Ontario for all information showing the course pursued by that government in giving encouragement to iron and steel smelting in that province. This will be shortly forthcoming, and will be placed before you for consideration and action. We believe the iron and steel trade to be the foundation of all the industries of a country, and there is no reason why, with the advantages possessed by us, full enjoyment should not be taken of the privileges.

To bring forward debate, your committee make the following suggestions:

1. That the Minister of Mines be asked to have the various ore bodies reported upon, that accurate knowledge be forthcoming regarding: (a) The locality; (b) Quality of ore; (c) The extent of deposits, and commercial value of the same.

2. The prevention of re-staking of claims, and speedy punishment for false declaration in respect to improvements.

3. That a bill be brought down embodying the following legislation in respect to the mining laws of the province: (a) That a bonus of not less than $——, nor more than $——, be offered prospectors for each available body of magnetite or hematite ores discovered within the province, the same being approved of by the proper officer as to quality, quantity, and availability for manufacturing purposes; (b) That all such deposits be reserved by the government in the interests of the owner to the intent that he be aided by the government in obtaining full money value for his find. This prevents the owner locking up the raw materials of the province against industry; (c) That in cases where the owner is unable to prove his find the government shall (if considered of value) reserve and prove the same, deducting the expenses from the amount of bonus or royalty thereafter paid; (d) The government shall place the reserved properties in the hands of responsible parties who will deposit a bond with the government covering a contract to mine such quantity of ore per year as shall be agreed upon. Smelting, or have the same smelted, within the province. That for each ton of ore mined the discoverer shall be paid a royalty, the amount of which shall be determined according to quality, quantity and the availability of the ore, the government at all times acting as arbitrator of values