

British Columbia.

METUOSIN.

Mr. D. H. Elliott, who has conducted the school here for the past five years, has sent in his resignation...

LILLOOET NUGGETS.

Mickey Free called him—was showing some splendid specimens at Lillooet the other day from his claim, and spoke as follows to us, intent and awe-stricken: "I allowed that I'd like to find a piece of rock that had not gold to be seen in it—just for a change you know."

VANCOUVER.

C. B. McConchey, who worked at Dempsey's logging camp on Saug Cove, Bowen Island, was drowned, it is supposed, on Monday morning. He was engaged as a boom hand and had only been working a short time...

A gold bar, valued at \$9,300, has been sent down from the mine of the Horse Fly Hydraulic Mining Company. This is the result of a clean-up of the sluicing machinery, however, being done with the cuts. A more complete clean-up, both at the Horse Fly and Cariboo companies' mines will take place later on.

The water in the river is going down rapidly at last, after remaining more than a week at about the same level. At Chilliwack on Sunday it was noticed that the water was beginning to subside quickly, and during Sunday night the drop was five inches, with the subsidence continuing Monday at the same rate.

The fishermen and cannery men were both disappointed in Friday night's catch of fish. Few boats got anything to speak of, and many came in empty Monday morning.

The fire brigade was out twice yesterday extinguishing bush fires in the suburbs of the city. Forest fires in many parts of the province are still being charged with smoke.

Salmon are being brought in from Boundary Bay in large numbers, from down river canneries. The fish are caught in traps both in the United States and British Columbia. On Sunday night Wadhams' cannery at Ladner's received 8,000 trap sockeyes, and on Monday night 12,000 more. These numbers indicate a lot of fish in Boundary Bay, and they will soon make a start for the Fraser river.

The river pines have been heard from again. On Monday night a boat and net belonging to the New Westminster Cannery Co. were stolen from a slip at the foot of Sixth street. The boat and net were found down river yesterday morning but the net was missing. Having removed the float line and corked identification of the net is impossible, hundreds of nets being exactly the same down to the minutest detail. Not even a guess can be made at the thieves.

It is reported, on good authority, in the Nicola Valley there is a grasshopper plague, which is causing a good deal of damage. Bush fires are also very extensive, and doing incalculable damage. It is said these fires were started by the Indians.

On Tuesday a strike of a 9 foot vein of ore was made in the Lanark, which runs pretty well. The company expect soon to employ a large force of men, and will erect a concentrator on the flats below town.

Sandy McRae has a contract to take out 200 tons of ore from the Dunvegan. He has brought in a pack train and will start in about ten days.

The Cariboo Gold Fields Co. have let the contract for clearing 30 acres ready for the plover. They expect to soon put in the tramway to the Lanark.

Wolsely Bros. are rushing work on the Cariboo creek claims, under the supervision of Mr. MacCallum.

Three bridges have been washed out on the trail between Revelstoke and Carnes creek. Floods have submerged the roads from Thomson's to Lardau and from Lardau to Trout Lake.

Geo. Laforme's pack train is held up on the trail. Bridges are out before and behind it and they cannot move until these structures are replaced.

Reighly and Frisby arrived down from the Jordan last night, where they have been at work for the past two months on the locations made by them last summer. They are very enthusiastic about the property, which has improved with every day's work.

The school trustees on Wednesday. Mr. Laing has been very painstaking and attentive to his duties since taking charge of the school, and has given general satisfaction to the trustees and parents.

Trail Creek News. Fred Cowan has given Hon. D. W. Higgins, of Victoria, a thirty day option on the Montreal. This claim joins the Vancouver, that has been bonded for \$40,000.

Mr. A. B. Irving, business manager for the Trail Mining Co., was at the water front Monday, receiving the machinery to be used in the mines belonging to that company.

The Nelson Miner. We understand that Mr. Francis, a mining engineer from England, has bonded the Starlight on Tread Mountain from A. E. Kelly and the other owners.

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The International Trading Co. profited by the high water when, on Tuesday evening, their new steamship, City of Kaslo, was slipped from her ways into deep water. The expense of lowering and launching would otherwise have been several hundred dollars.

Alexander Watt returned this week from his company's Grouse mountain property, where he put a force of five men at work on development. The property adjoins the Storm King and is considered gilt-edged by Mr. Watt.

A bush fire, which started near the railroad above Buchanan's offices, probably from sparks from a locomotive, came near destroying several houses on the hill last Monday. A large number of men fought the fire nearly every day. Several houses were vacated and the alarm in that section of town was general.

The big flood always excepted, Kootenay lake is now higher, and at the same time later in flood, than previously recorded.

S. S. Bailey came up from Spokane last Saturday and Sunday put seven men to work in the Payne. This force will take down ore and will be increased in a short time. Mr. Bailey now has 100 men at work in his warehouse at Beyer Sidle, which he is holding in the hope of a rise in silver.

The city council has elected S. H. Green, of Messrs. Green Bros., treasurer of the city.

Steve Wilson, the man who with his partner James Davidson discovered the enormous ledge at the head of Yault creek, has been in town this week. He declares the ledge to be fully as large as at first reported, from 200 to 360 feet. The average samples taken across the mammoth ledge, run from a trace to \$10.00 in gold and 23 ounces in silver.

Men have gone up to open the Surprise trail, preparatory to taking up supplies for the reopening of that mine, which was closed down this spring on account of the general break-up. Manager Smith expects to start on the old force of ten men and intends to work a large amount of ore next fall and winter.

Gust Adams, of the Adams house, this city, returned Monday night from Bunker Hill creek, in the Trout Lake country. The owners of the Abbott group, C. P. R. officials, and the Silver Coy. he said, are with the aim of \$6,000 appropriation from government, building a wagon road from Trout Lake City to a point on the Lardo near the Silver Clip, a distance of eight miles. A number of properties, among which the Silver Cup, the Northern and Black Fly are the most prominent, have been opened up. Hugh McPherson owns the Northern. He has 150 tons of 140-ounce ore on the dump and immense showings in the tunnel. An offer of \$100,000 cash was recently refused for the property. The Leadville and London are on Bunker Hill creek, about one and one-half miles from Gagner creek and sixteen miles northeast from Trout Lake City. The new wagon road will be about five miles of the property. The Leadville and London are also, can be traced a distance of thirty miles across the country and is an immense affair fifty feet in width. An average sample taken across the ledge, gave \$8 in gold and thirteen ounces in silver, while very high individual assays have been obtained. The general outlook for the country is very bright. Many prospectors are going in and discoveries are made daily. The government is doing a great deal to open up the country.

ROSSLAND. (Rossland Miner.) The tunnel on the Evening Star is now seventy-five feet and a shaft has been started. The intersection of the two veins. The showing at the new shaft is very good, a general average of eight feet giving \$28 in gold.

As a consequence of the high water in the Columbia river the Spokane & Northern railway has been blockaded for the sanitary condition of the town. The express and mails are being got through daily, but freight is at a standstill.

Dr. A. T. Watt, secretary of the provincial board of health, has been in Kootenay for the past week investigating the sanitary condition of the town and making arrangements to abate those nuisances which threaten the public health.

George Nelson, the well-known contractor, lost his passenger railroad outfit, household goods, clothing and papers by fire on the 4th of July. The loss is a very serious one, as it will take over \$4,000 to replace the outfit.

A force of miners working for the

owners of the Tiger have opened up a fine vein of quartz from which assays up to \$40 in gold have been obtained. The owners of the B. C. insist that the showing is on the ground.

The sinking of the engine shaft on the Josie is being steadily continued and shows five feet of high grade ore in the bottom. A contract has been let for a 100-foot crosscut tunnel to tap this shaft at a depth of 120 feet.

Before going east O. G. Labaree purchased from C. P. Oudin and John Y. Cole the Golden Queen on Red Mountain, which adjoins the St. Elmo on the north. It is nearly a full 1500x1500 foot claim and is crown granted.

The main tunnel of the Centre Star has been in high grade ore for nearly a month now and still there are no indications of the ore chute giving out. There are 3000 tons of shipping ore on the dump and five drifts are in pay ore from which shipments of fifty tons a day could be made by driving ahead on these drifts without stopping a pound.

The shaft on the Commander is now down over eighty feet. It is being sunk 500 feet in the clear and the bottom is all in ore which averages over \$20 in gold and 14 per cent in copper. There are over forty tons of ore on the dump, but no shipments will be made till 100 tons have been got out.

The Miner's attention has been drawn by letters from Seattle subscribers, to a company which has been floated in this city, operated by Bald Butte mineral claim in this camp. A prospectus has been issued which alleges among other things that the claim is a full one and adjoins the Mayflower, Grand Prize and Deer Park, which is a physical impossibility.

Another doubtful feature of the prospectus is that two references are given in Rossland, neither of which was authorized while one was expressly forbidden to be used. The further fact that the last bill of sale recorded, namely from W. E. Smith to J. E. Porter, showed the outrageous consideration of \$35,000 makes the whole transaction look very suspicious.

One of the most disgraceful features of the Gold Hill swindle consists in this that nearly all the labor on the mine was paid in stocks at a nominal value, we believe, of 6 to 10 cents a share. Some of the men were paid in shares, but no shipments will be made till 100 tons have been got out.

Small force of miners is engaged on the San Joaquin, sinking a shaft 6x8 in the clear, which is at the present writing 34 feet down. It shows a well defined vein of oxidized material containing an excess of hornblende. Mr. Bonehe, who is in charge of the property, is our authority for the statement that this oxidized ledge matter will assay from \$15 to \$20 in gold per ton. Six assays made recently by the Kootenay Mining & Development company gave returns as follows: \$25, \$40, \$65, \$71 and \$82 in gold per ton.

J. Barnett McLaren of Ottawa, Ont., a son of the late great lumber king of Canada, has recently purchased through the firm of A. B. McKenzie & Co. from H. G. Stimmler of Spokane, 33,333 shares of the Le Roi stock for \$56,665, or at the rate of \$5 per share. This is the largest sale of stock which has taken place in the camp for some time.

While some blocks of Le Roi have changed hands at larger figures this is the first time, we believe, that a large block has fetched par. It practically places the cash value of the property at \$2,500,000. At this time it may be of interest to state that the present output of the Le Roi mine is 100 tons a day, which averages \$40 in gold and four per cent in copper. To date dividends to the amount of \$175,000 have been paid and as the output will be increased to 200 tons a day inside of two months, the Le Roi mine is a most profitable property.

HEALER SCATTERER DISCOVERED Guthrie, Oklahoma. Now Harbors the "Divine Healer."

Guthrie, O.T. July 16.—A man claiming to be Scatterer, the divine healer from Denver, rode into town late yesterday afternoon on a bicycle and created a sensation. He was dressed in a trailing gown of black and wore a curling beard and long flowing hair. As soon as his identity became known a great crowd gathered about the man, and since then hundreds of people have constantly dogged his footsteps. Last night he addressed an immense throng, laying hands on people and blessing hundreds.

IRISH LAND BILL Officially Announced That Amendments Are to be Withdrawn.

London, July 15.—It is semi-officially announced that the amendments offered by Werald Balfour to the Irish land bill introduced in the house of commons on April 18 are to be withdrawn. It is also announced that the whole of clause 13 will be dropped in consequence of the attitude assumed by the government.

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Antonio Maceo Very Much Alive—Havana Merchants Refuse New Paper Money.

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Col. Fuentos, reconnoitering in the vicinity of Cuzco, captured an insurgent camp which was defended by 1,000 men. He also destroyed the corn and banana fields in the vicinity, and arrested a number of persons suspected of having affiliation with the insurgents.

New York, July 16.—The Spanish reports at Havana and Madrid say that Carlos M. Aguirre, chief of staff and nephew of Jose Maria Aguirre, is dead. Nevertheless Aguirre arrived here yesterday from Tampa. He was accompanied by Dr. Joaquin de Castan, Colonel Aguirre comes here on an important mission direct from Gomez, Maceo and his uncle. In an interview he said: "Last summer we pursued a Fabian policy."

This summer it will be a policy of vigor. The fever is catching up the Spanish army and they are in a terrible condition." We propose to take advantage of their weakness, and shall force the conflict. Antonio Maceo is no more dead than I am. I left him on July 4, full of health and brimful of fight. Orders had been given that he, with Aguirre, was to concentrate his troops for a series of desperate blows at the close of this month or early next month. Before leaving Cuba my special duty was to look after Gen. Weyler's troops in Pinar del Rio. It is known every inch of it. There has not been a day when we could not cross it at will. Maceo can go through the line whenever he is ready. He is only waiting for Gomez to say the word, and Gomez is now hurrying westward from Camaguey with the new force and new supplies which he went there for.

The line of communication between Gomez and Maceo and the other generals is unbroken. Maceo's last order, issued before I left Cuba, was to burn every house, shed or improvised barracks which can afford shelter for Spanish troops, so that they will be forced to stand the exposure of the open field.

Maceo has issued a circular to the Spanish soldiers, advising them to leave the sovereignty of Cuba and to join their Cuban brothers. He points out that they are ill-fed, poorly clothed, badly paid and unappreciated in the Spanish army, and promises them good treatment, good food and a good home for their families, and a future with themselves under the Cuban republic. Many of the young Spanish troops have taken advantage of the offer."

Madrid, July 16.—In an interview the minister of marine said that the government had authorized the purchase of cruisers in Genoa, but that the contracts would not be signed until the Cortes had granted the necessary credentials. The minister said that one of the two cruisers was practically ready in February. It is known from a trustworthy source that the credits will be granted, though the price is considered excessive.

Tampa, Fla. July 16.—Private advices from Cuba state that the Merchants of Havana have refused to accept the last issue of paper money. They also threaten that if in two months Gen. Weyler makes no progress in suppressing the revolution they will leave the island.

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San Francisco, July 16.—An attempt was made to kill Carlos Ezeta, ex-president of Salvador yesterday. As Ezeta was sitting in the dining room of his hotel, Pedro Jimenez, a Salvadorean, walked up to the table at which Ezeta and a party of friends were seated and spat in the face of the ex-president. Ezeta sprang at Jimenez, who drew a pistol and pulled the trigger. The weapon did not discharge readily and before the assailant could accomplish his purpose he was seized by Ezeta's friends and secured until the arrival of police assistance. Jimenez had been here four months. He was formerly district attorney of Salvador, and incurred the dislike of Ezeta in the prosecution of a criminal. He had announced his intention of killing Ezeta because he had been imprisoned and tortured.

THE FRASER FRESHET. Some Sections as Bad as in 1894. Others Not so Bad as Reported.

A representative of the Columbian took a trip up the river as far as Chilliwack the other day, and the following are the results of his observations and inquiries with regard to the freshet.

Nicomen Island is badly flooded, except the higher ridges, which are all right, and the crops on these higher levels are looking fine. Some of the settlers have moved for good, but the majority of them will stay on their ranches. Dewdney is also badly inundated, but here, also, the crops which are not flooded are excellent. The water this year seems to have set towards the side of the river more than usual, there being a great rush through Nicomen slough. If a dredge were kept working at Miller's, in the main channel, the

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ROYAL Baking Powder. Highest of all in leavening strength.—U. S. Government Report.