

ATHLETIC BUILDING

Ready for Meeting Tomorrow Night

First Gathering of Shareholders Formation of Yukon Hockey League.

A good many people who were starting out for a walk in the bright sunshine of yesterday afternoon, went very little further than the new athletic building. Many made it the aim of their pilgrimage, and stayed there watching the thirty workmen hammering away with great interest.

The rink, 160 feet by 65 feet is ready for the water to be turned on as soon as there is a chance of its freezing. It is hoped to have the first skating carnival to formally open the rink about Nov. 1st, although there may be skating before that date.

The large reception room, 30 feet by 46 feet, on the right of the entrance, is nearly completed, and will be fully furnished with light and furniture in time for the first meeting of shareholders tomorrow evening. It is wonderful how the interest of the stockholders has grown with the growth of the building.

At the meeting tomorrow night the shareholders will not only see a building of which they cannot help but feel personally proud, but the secretary will by that time proudly report that over one-half of the amount of the stock, namely, \$10,000, has already been paid in.

On the left of the entrance and opposite to the reception and reading room, there is a reception and dressing room for ladies, which will be handsomely fitted with toilet stands and closets.

These are two rinks of the usual size, separate from the skating rink for curlers, at the entrance to which is a room 24 feet by 30 feet which will be well heated and lighted.

On the next floor and over the entrance, is a lofty, well lighted room 16 feet by 60 feet. This is the gymnasium, and on special occasions can be used for a ball room.

Next to the gymnasium are four bathrooms, which will be fitted up with all the modern appliances. After a man has taken an hour's good work in the gym he can take a Turkish bath.

When a sprint along the running track just outside, then a douch under the shower bath and go to the muffers brought in with them from the trail in days gone by.

Among the most deeply interested of the visitors yesterday were the hockey players. These held a meeting in Secretary Burn's room in the administration building the previous evening and formed a league of four.

most enthusiastic supporters of the athletic association was in the chair. The meeting decided to call the new organization the Yukon Hockey League, to be governed by the rules of the Ontario Hockey Association.

London, Sept. 23.—The Daily Telegraph, in an article on Great Britain's "unhesitating" support of Secretary Hay's Roumanian note says: "However unwelcome, may be the phenomenal to certain sections of continental opinion, there is but little doubt that the significant co-operation of the two Anglo-Saxon powers will go far to put an end to a condition of things which is a scandal to modern civilization and a reproach to every country responsible for the Berlin treaty."

The Telegraph, noting that Count Van Buelow had gained considerable diplomatic experience at Bucharest, fakes leave to doubt whether the German chancellor will adopt crudely the anti-American attitude which is being pressed upon him from impenetrable and injudicious quarters.

"In any case," says the Telegraph, "Lord Lansdowne's action has settled any difficulty which might be advanced on account of the United States not being a signatory of the Berlin treaty."

Referring to the subject editorially, the Times this morning says the British note is confined at the present stages to inquiry as to what view the other signatory powers take of Secretary Hay's note. "The correspondence published," says the Times, "shows that the subject has produced a deep impression on public opinion in Great Britain. If the Roumanian government is able to contradict the statements made, it should do so without delay.

DIFFICULTIES TO BE MET.—"The difficulties of enforcing the obligations of the Berlin treaty are obviously very great, and if any efficient check is placed upon the anti-Semitic legislation of Roumania, it will most likely be done in an indirect way. Roumania is not in such prosperous financial condition as to be able with impunity to affront a race which reckons among its members the leading financial magnates of Europe."

In another dispatch from Vienna, the correspondent of the Times says that Secretary Hay's Roumanian note has not only given the newspapers a topic, but that it has given diplomacy a task. More than one of the powers has remonstrated with Roumania, says the correspondent, but their warnings have been ignored.

"Indeed," continues the correspondent, "I hear from Bucharest that a captious interpretation of article 44 of the Berlin treaty is ready, as a reply to any further diplomatic representations. Coercion, of course, is out of the question."

"The United States government must reckon with its own Jewish element, and it is not likely to resort to any special legislation against the immigration of Roumanian Jews, while the European governments, which did not venture to move in the case of the Armenian massacres, are not likely to do much in behalf of the Roumanian Jews."

Placed Under Arrest.—Victor Schreyer was taken in custody yesterday afternoon under a capias warrant sworn out by the Bank of British North America. The amount involved is \$1967 and bail was accepted in that amount.

Heir is Born.—Special to the Daily Nugget. London, Oct. 4.—An heir has come to the Duke of Manchester, his American wife giving birth to a boy.

Ballot Denies.—Special to the Daily Nugget. London, Oct. 4.—Premier Balfour denies that the British government will withdraw the education bill.

..Description of Croatia..

Pittsburg, Sept. 23.—In the last few weeks there have been frequent references in the American press to the Croats, both in connection with the disturbances in the capital of Croatia, where martial law has just been proclaimed, and also in relation to the Pennsylvania mining troubles, in which the great-Croatian labor union, entitled the Narodna Hrvatska Zapravnica, which has its headquarters at Pittsburg, plays so important a role.

Before proceeding to do this it may be as well to call attention to the large number of so-called Croats that there are at the present moment in the United States. In Pennsylvania alone they number considerably over 100,000, most of them being affiliated with the labor union at Pittsburg above mentioned, which has branches and agents throughout the mining and oil field districts. In Illinois, Iowa and Michigan there are at least a couple of hundred thousands more.

It is difficult to obtain definite statistics about the matter excepting through the immigration authorities at Ellis island. For the Austro-Hungarian government discounts the immigration to such an extent the emigration of its citizens and puts so many obstacles in the way of their leaving the land of their birth that when they reach this country they are as a general rule careful to avoid their consular officials, feeling that they have acted in coming to America contrary to the wishes of their monarch, and have consequently little to expect from his representatives.

True, the latter are ready to support the emigrants from Austria-Hungary to the best in their power. But they are seldom appealed to, just because the immigrants feel themselves remiss and whereas there is not a foreign consulate in New York for the repatriation of those of its fellow countrymen who have been unable to make a living in the United States, the Austro-Hungarian consuls in America are so seldom called upon for assistance of this kind that they have actually no fund allowed to them by their government for the purpose.

Then, too, the major portion of the immigrants who enter the United States under the generic denomination of Croats, and who comprise Dalmatians, Istrians, Carniolians, Serbs and Slavonians are illiterate, and in consequence thereof experience considerable difficulty in acquiring American citizenship. Indeed, there are whole communities of them in the mining districts of Pennsylvania who not only never learn to read or write, but actually live here and die without having acquired the English language. So that the only means of keeping track of them in any way is through the labor unions to which they belong and through their clergy.

The latter are dispatched to this country by the primate and religious orders of Croatia, independently of the Austro-Hungarian government, and they, too, as a rule, by reason of the remoteness of their fields of labor from the cities in which they are located the Austro-Hungarian consulates rarely come into contact with the latter. In this they differ from the priests of the so-called Greek rite. For the latter, who are supposed to look after the spiritual welfare of that Serbian element of the-Croatian immigration, are suspected, not without good-reason, of pursuing pan-Slavist propaganda on behalf of Russia among their flock, under the direction of the agents of the Muscovite government here, and of endeavoring not only to convert the Croatian Catholics to the Greek church, but likewise to induce them to look upon the Czar both as their spiritual and temporal protector and sovereign.

With regard to Croatia itself it is an autonomous province, not of Austria, but of Hungary. It has its separate diet, is represented in both houses of the Hungarian legislature, and has at its head a governor or banus, who, although the representative of the emperor, is nominated by the Hungarian government and subject to the latter. This subject to Hungary is a source of bitter discontent on the part of the Croats, who, like the Czechs of Bohemia, are anxious for a far greater degree of home rule than that which they now enjoy, and yearn for the restoration of the old kingdom of Croatia, with Emperor Francis Joseph as their king, and bound only to the remaining portions of his empire by dynastic ties.

"This feeling is not altogether unnatural when the fact is recalled that at the time of the Hungarian insurrection in 1849 the Croats under their banus Jellachich marched against the rebels and contributed so largely to the suppression of the revolutionary movement that their services Austria declared Croatia independent of Hungary. When, however, twelve years later, the policy of Austria towards Hungary was changed and the Magyars, thanks to Deak, Tisza, Andrássy and other patriots, recovered not only their autonomy but likewise a national constitution distinct from that of Austria, Croatia was, in spite of the protests of its population, once more incorporated in the reconstituted kingdom of Hungary, in pursuance of the policy of Austria to conciliate in every manner possible the Magyars."

The Hungarian government is keenly alive to this nationalist spirit which prevails throughout Croatia, and seeks by every means in its power to suppress it. Indeed, its rule of Croatia is, to say the least, strict. There is but little endeavor to conciliate the Croats, and on the least pretext, such as any conflict between rival factions of Croats or of the Croats and Serbs, military law, with all the severities which that expression implies, is at once proclaimed by order from Budapest in the district where the trouble has taken place.

It is hardly necessary to say that the Croats have plenty of differences among themselves. There are, for instance, the Croats proper, who are divided into at least four political parties. Then there are the Serbs in Croatia, who number about 23 per cent of the population; and who follow the Greek instead of the Roman Catholic rite. Moreover, they use the Russian or Slav alphabet in lieu of the Latin letters that are employed by the Croats. Their religious and political differences frequently lead to strife. For the Croats, as a rule, are a warlike people, who contributed in no small measure to preserve western Europe from being overrun by the Turks, and have time and again shed their blood for the Hapsburg dynasty, especially during the "seven years' war," when their name served to inspire dread throughout Silesia, and that part of Germany which constituted the field of the historic conflict between Frederick the Great and Empress Theresa.

this means will be understood when the fact is taken into consideration that there are all told some 18,000,000 Slavs who constitute an integral part of the population of Austro-Hungary, and that were the Slavs of Croatia and Esclavonia to join hands with the Slavs of Bohemia they would constitute a force sufficiently overwhelming to be in a position to impose their demands for complete autonomy both at Pesth and at Vienna.

For the present the Slavs of Bohemia and the Slavs of Croatia are far apart. There is, indeed, but one power that ever expects to unite them for purposes of her own, and that is Russia, who has the agents of the pan-Slavs Association busy at work in Bohemia as in Croatia, bent upon the fulfillment of the openly avowed program of the pan-Slav Association—namely: the "freeing of our brethren from German and Austrian tyranny" and the formation of a great pan-Slav empire or federation of Slav states under the sovereignty of the Czar.

It is because the Austro-Hungarian government has long been aware of this pan-Slav-propaganda being carried on within its borders that it has always endeavored to repress rather than encourage the Slav nationalist idea, and why it set its face so strongly against the late bishop of Diakobar, Mgr. Strossmeyer, who was one of the most powerful and influential champions of the "great Croat idea" and of Slav nationalist movement. Although a member of the Austro-Hungarian episcopacy, he carried his nationalism to such an extent that he made a point of nothing but Croatian.

The cathedral which he erected at Diakobar, a gem of the purest Gothic art, bears an inscription over its central portal to the effect that it has been "designed, built and sculptured for the greatest glory of God, exclusively by Croats." No one was allowed to put his hand to the work unless it could be shown that he had Slav blood coursing through his veins. For several consecutive years the bishop kept men traveling through the country collecting all the Slav legends, popular songs, poems, etc., which, after being carefully revised by himself, were printed and distributed gratis everywhere in order that, in the words of the bishop, "the people might be no longer exposed to hearing those hateful German and Hungarian songs that contain nothing but curse for Croats."

This will convey some idea of the strength of the "great Croat idea," and of the intensity of the nationalist feeling throughout Croatia, as well as the ill-will of the population thereof towards Hungary, and in the minor degree, of course, towards Austria. While the Croats may be always relied upon to shed their blood for the Hapsburg dynasty, as they have done for hundreds of years past they are bound in the natural order of things to continue to prove as much a source of trouble and anxiety to the authorities at Vienna, but more especially at Budapest, as the Irish are to the government of Great Britain.

Eldorado Benches Staked.—Eldorado creek was the scene of another "small sized" stampede last week, the benches opposite 23 and 24 being staked back to the seventh tier. It is claimed the White Channel has been discovered in that locality with every indication of it proving as rich as it has in many places on lower Bonanza. About a dozen claims were recorded Saturday.

FOR SALE—Very cheap, interest in creek claim No. 143 below lower on Dominion. Inquire E. C. Stahl, this office.

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