

Rossland Weekly Miner.

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BRITISH VS. AMERICAN JUSTICE.

The Chicago Tribune makes the suicide of Whitaker Wright the subject of a comparison of the course of British and American justice. It is cautious, but much to the point. "In England," says the Tribune, "there is no right to an appeal. If the state supreme court is reversed, the case goes to the trial court. Wright's Chicago lawyers would have pretended that a federal question was involved in the case and tried to get a United States Judge to assume jurisdiction. If that proved a failure a local or imported judge would have been imported to free the criminal in habeas corpus proceedings. All efforts might have failed, although this is unlikely, but Wright would have been kept out of the penitentiary for several years, and meanwhile would have gone at large on bail. Had he been sent to the penitentiary, the sheriff would have kept him in the county jail for a while and he would have lived like a fighting cock. Then influential friends would have petitioned the governor for a pardon and probably would have obtained one with little delay. If not the pardon board would have released him on parole as soon as it could and he might have been a banker again in Chicago in a few years. Money and the lawyers and friends it procures can do almost everything for the Illinois criminal. In England they are impotent. British justice spares neither wealth nor rank. The only refuge from its penalties is the grave. Cyfyllide of potassium was the best thing for Wright in England; it would have been ridiculous in Chicago."

PNEUMONIA.

The eastern cities which are going through a regular siege of pneumonia report heavy death losses from the disease. Pneumonia is a disease in which almost everything depends, as to recovery, upon the general good constitution of the patient. It is fair to suppose that the same elements enter into the liability to contagion. A person in a tolerably sound habit of health is less likely to get pneumonia, and one who lives in a climate such as ours, where it is pretty hard not to secure good ventilation in houses and offices, is that much better off when pneumonia is stalking around the country. Good ventilation is the first outside necessity in either warding off an attack or recovering from one. Physicians are almost all agreed that drugs do very little for the trouble. Fresh air properly tempered as to warmth is first and last in the remedy. If warm, fresh air cannot be obtained, the next best thing is air in the natural state. One eminent authority declares that the germ of pneumonia will be found inactive in the mouths of many healthy persons. So long as these individuals are in their normal state of health there is no special danger. Over fatigue, long mental strain, indisposition, or any cause which lessens resistance and invites "a cold" may start up the germ on its round of activity. We give this theory for what it may be worth in medical minds. It has a good many supporters. In general, if a case of pneumonia is not wanted, the specifics of prevention are good habits, temperance in diet, exercise and fresh air—lots of the latter. We seem to be well stocked with this last just now.

THE CORRESPONDENTS' CAMPAIGN.

At Nagasaki, in Japan, there will soon be a remarkable gathering of war correspondents. Nagasaki is to be the headquarters of the press writers and probably not any war of recent date will see a more representative body of men from many countries collected under more peculiar and puzzling military conditions. Not one of these men has a certainty that there will be any action to write about. The uncertainty is what makes the whole situation the more exciting, however, and as a good many of the correspondents are to win their first spurs in this battle of press dispatches the tension will be pretty heavy. There will be veterans of nearly forty years of experience, who have been through other oriental conflicts. The

South African and Spanish war men will renew old associations. Men who have had to dodge out of the way of old South American fire-eaters while they finished the hunt for a "lot of good stuff" to file at the nearest telegraph office can instruct the men of one campaign in the best means for working up local color where there is no background upon which to put the color. Modern warfare has lost something of its early picturesque details by the use of smokeless powder. The "gray cloud of battle" no longer veils or reveals alternately. The illusions of military glory are, to an extent, lost by this and the possibility of glowing word-painting is by that much narrowed.

The modern war correspondent's life has enough in itself without the old incentives. In these days the pictorial part of a correspondent's campaigning is half the battle. The artist and the correspondent together complete the story. Julian Mack points out in his chapter on "War Correspondents" in his last book that as news now files the "correspondent supplies the army with news," and must unavoidably do so more and more. He believed that, before long, for this reason, war correspondents would be excluded from all armies.

HUDSON'S BAY.

It has been argued against the Canadian claim to exclusive possession of Hudson's Bay that there is no fixed rule in international law for determining what constitutes a closed sea. Furthermore, it is urged that various nations have made extensive claims at times to exclusive maritime jurisdiction, which had to be abandoned. Thus Britain at one time claimed the whole of the North sea and the Atlantic ocean north of Scotland. Venice, in her days of power, held the Adriatic as a closed sea, while Denmark and Sweden asserted the same claim over the Baltic. Spain, most grasping of all, and supported by the Pope, assumed sovereignty over the entire Pacific ocean and the western half of the Atlantic, including the Gulf of Mexico, Russia, down to the sale of Alaska to the United States, maintained Behring sea as within her exclusive jurisdiction. The United States set up the same claim over Behring sea, but had to abandon it, as all the claims mentioned had to be abandoned. While admitting the force of this argument, as applied in each case, none of these claims were based on geographical and territorial facts analogous to those existing in relation to Hudson's Bay. Although it has the dimensions of a sea, having an area estimated at four hundred thousand miles, and is connected with the Atlantic ocean by straits of varying width, at most a hundred miles, the entire bay and straits are within the territory of the Dominion of Canada. Broadly speaking, there could be no objection to the mariners of the United States or of any other nation navigating Hudson's Bay and trading with its ports. But assuming the bay to be Canadian territory, foreigners cannot be allowed to set up claims to fishing rights within Canadian territory. Apart from territorial claims, the obvious intension to jurisdiction over it as the object of the claim of the United States to an exclusive area around the Pribilof islands, not on account of territorial rights, but because of the value of the fisheries on the shores. On the other hand, it might become an arduous and expensive task for Canada to police Hudson's Bay, protect its fisheries and vindicate her sovereignty. Article X of the treaty of Utrecht certainly provides that France shall "restore to Great Britain the Bay and Straits of Hudson," with all lands, seas, coasts and rivers situated on the said Bay and Straits.

THE BOARD OF TRADE.

The suggestion that a Dominion Fair be held in this province in 1905 and that a grant of \$50,000 be voted to it by the Ottawa parliament deserves the heartiest support of all public spirited British Columbians. It is a matter that is being favorably discussed at the coast and almost everywhere except in Rossland, where the board of trade has lapsed into a state of innocuous desuetude, owing to the unsatisfactory policy of the president of the board, A. H. MacNeill, K. C. Mr. MacNeill's policy with regard to the Sophie Mountain wagon road and his refusal to call a meeting in time to protest against the iniquitous assessment act recently passed by the legislature, have killed the popularity and influence of the Rossland board of trade. No one seems to care any more what becomes of the institution. It is hoped, however, that at the next general meeting of the board a really disinterested and public spirited citizen will be elected president. We may then look for a revival of interest in the organization and the promotion of many public interests of a beneficial

nature, the Dominion fair among the number. The annual meeting of the board occurs next month. A man like Lorne Campbell, with his high reputation for business enterprise and public spirit, would quickly transform the Rossland board of trade into a popular and useful institution. The only question is, will he accept the office and give us the benefit of his abilities.

A BANKER'S HOT AIR.

Referring to British Columbia, in his annual address the general manager of the Bank of Commerce said: "Now that the finances of the province have been put upon a sound basis, and the speculative features of mining have passed away, we can but hope for a cessation of labor troubles, and that we may see a growing desire on the part of the politicians to work together for the province, in order that this great section of Canada may have its fair chance."

MINES SUBSTANTIAL INVESTMENTS.

The increasing attention being paid by men of wealth to mines as an investment is a pretty good criterion as to the stability and profit to be gained from this source. It is scarcely necessary to mention one of the great financial magnates of the present day who is not interested in mining, or who is not adding to his interests. The reason for this is not hard to explain. Railroads, manufactures, land and every other investment is constantly becoming not only less remunerative but more difficult to find where large capital is on hand. Railroad and manufacturing "development" is well ahead of present requirements, and in the judgment of some authorities even ahead, and the fact that so many of the great "captains of industry" are prospecting for other avenues of investment is a proof that they are impressed with the same view of the matter. Another reason why mining investments are so attractive is the great profit in proportion to the investment to be derived therefrom. Instead of the three, four, or in rare cases, eight or ten per cent ordinary investments bring, it is an exaggeration to say that twenty-five per cent is comparatively a small return from mines. The small return from mines, the revenue is much greater, and where large fortunes have been obtained from small investments.

CIVIC AFFAIRS.

Now that Mr. Petch is no longer a member of the city council it is necessary to elect his successor. The electors of the East Ward will have that opportunity on February 15, and it is then that they will show whether or not they are in favor of the Robinson-McDonald split system in civic affairs. The cause of good government will not have to beguile for a candidate. Certain it is that a reputable and conscientious citizen will be found to champion the cause, and equally certain it is that he will be elected. Why should it turn out otherwise? Why should some "tool of ex-Deputy Sheriff Robinson be chosen to go to the council and help hand over the city to the wolves?" The Miner is absolutely confident that no tool of the Robinson-McDonald gang can be elected and therefore awaits the result with cheerful placidity. Within two weeks' time the "Reformers" will be reformed by force of circumstances, so far as the city hall is concerned.

CIVIC AFFAIRS.

There is a widespread belief among the people of Rossland that "Sheriff" Robinson is chiefly responsible for all the unsatisfactory turmoil that has transpired recently in civic affairs. Of course the "testimony" of Alderman McDonald's disposition, his love for notoriety and over-weening desire to rise as a politician of influence have had something to do with the attempted introduction of the spoils system under the thin and tattered guise of reform, but the fact remains that Robinson is the head and back of this whole wretched movement. Dismissed from the provincial service, "the sheriff" is apparently looking for another soft political appointment, and as there seemed to be no avenue to that end so available as the city hall, he has busily directed his efforts lately to make here a place for himself and not for the people. It is indubitable that Mr. Monk has resigned because of his knowledge that efforts were being made by a certain faction in the party to have him removed in order to make way for Mr. Tarte, and that he preferred voluntary resignation to forcible removal.

TARTE AND MONK.

Mr. Monk has resigned his position as leader of the Conservative party in Quebec. The reason for his resignation appears to be his dissatisfaction with the growing influence of Mr. Tarte in the party councils and the reference paid to that able but volatile politician. It is indubitable that Mr. Monk has resigned because of his knowledge that efforts were being made by a certain faction in the party to have him removed in order to make way for Mr. Tarte, and that he preferred voluntary resignation to forcible removal.

THE TRANSPORTATION PROBLEM.

Canada is a country of magnificent distances, and for that reason development depends primarily on a solution of the transportation problem. The question must be regarded rather as a number of intricate and diversified problems, each district and locality having needs according to its own peculiar circumstances and conditions. Transportation is an essential part of the productive history of any country. The carrying of grain to market is as essential as ploughing, sowing and reaping. Agricultural development is in no more possible without transportation facilities than without soil or sunshine. The crop that cannot be marketed is virtually worthless. The truth is so well recognized in a general way that it need not be emphasized, but its importance is generally overlooked. Our areas of rich farming land capable of yielding abundance of food, our forest wealth, and rich mineral deposits might as well be under the sea as lacking in transportation facilities, so far as present development is concerned. Until supplies can be delivered and products carried away, productive industry in any form is impossible. This truth has had an unfortunate and practical demonstration in many parts of western Canada. Pros-

pected railway lines have led to the establishment of settlements which have prospered for a time with unfavorable conditions and appeared. The land office records show the wholesale abandonment of farms where transportation facilities had failed.

THE VACANT SEATS.

Thought the people of Rossland will have an opportunity to hear, at the opera house all those who have been asked to be candidates for the vacancies on the aldermanic board made vacant by the resignation of Aldermen Rolt and Petch. We know that Messrs. Rolt and Hamilton are candidates, and it is rumored that Messrs. Reed and Girard are also aspirants. Messrs. Rolt and Hamilton are actually public-spirited and unselfish motives. There is no saying at the present time what prompts the other two to sacrifice themselves on the altar of municipal duty. There is, however, an opportunity tonight for each and all of them to define their respective positions.

TOO LITTLE BLOOD.

In the Cause of Most of the Miserie in Every Part of the World, the Blood and Disease Will Not Exist. Among the many thousands who testify to the value of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills as a blood and nerve tonic is Miss Mary Jackson, Normandale, Ont., who says: "I have used Dr. Williams' Pink Pills and have derived such great benefit from them that I consider it my duty to let others know their worth. For upwards of three years I suffered from anemia, and grew so weak that I could scarcely walk about the house. I had no color in my face, my lips and gums were bloodless, I lost all ambition, suffered from headaches and dizziness, and felt very nervous. I weighed only ninety-four pounds. I doctored a great deal, but it did not seem to do me any good. I continued using the pills for some weeks and am now in the very best health. Every depressing symptom has passed away and I have gained fourteen pounds in weight. I think there is no medicine can equal Dr. Williams' Pink Pills and I strongly recommend them to all weak and ailing girls."

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PROSPECTOR WOULD DISAPPEAR FROM THE SCENE.

The London Spectator is impressed with the fact that the note of the present day in English society is one of light-mindedness, or what the French call levitee. "We look upon war," it says, "like amateurs, upon taxation like millionaires, upon social warfare like superintendents of police. We divert ourselves with the desire for excitement, and are happy if the news of the day, though it be a catastrophe, gives interest to the day's talk." We are reminded of an ancient description of the Athenians and the "foreign colony" in their city, to the effect that they "spent their time in nothing else, but either to tell or to hear some new story." The Greek spirit, it would seem, is conquering the Hibernic and Germanic. The natural gravity and earnestness of British character is giving way to levity and the pure spirit of pleasure-seeking. It was something very similar to this that we quoted lately from the Archbishop of Canterbury. It is not easy to preach a reformation for a widespread evil, but those who use our eyes and ears special commission to combat it by every means in their power, and primarily by example.

HE WON'T RESIGN.

Alderman McDonald also declines to vacate his seat at the council and seek re-election with the discharge of city officials as an issue. Yesterday afternoon he said: "I have no reason to resign and offer myself for re-election. Let Alderman Rolt do so if he wishes and I can assure you he will be badly defeated. I don't consider myself bound by what happened at the city council last night. I said there that I would take my chance against Alderman Rolt in his own ward or in the city at large, but so far as resigning and running against me in the present time I have no intention of doing so in any shape or form."

THE BTE ELECTION.

Under the Elections Act procedure the resignation of Alderman Rolt is brought to the attention of the city council, whose duty it is to declare the seat vacant and arrange for the election to fill the vacancy within ten days of such declaration.

ALD. ROLT RESIGNS SEAT

Forwards Resignation to Mayor Clute With Reasons.

Challenges Aldermen McDonald and Petch to Follow.

Rossland's municipal affairs are certainly in a chaotic condition this morning. Five of the corporation's city hall servants are discharged by a resolution of council, Alderman Rolt has resigned his seat at the board as a protest against such action by the majority members, and announces his intention of seeking re-election as a pronouncement by the ratepayers against such dismissals, and Mayor Clute declines to append his official signature to checks for civic liabilities accrued to date. The latter stand is taken on the ground that the action of the majority members may interfere with securing accommodation at the bank for the funds to cover the overdraft incurred by the checks prepared for signature.

Yesterday Alderman Rolt backed up his assertion at the council meeting on Tuesday night by forwarding the following self-explanatory letter to Rossland, B. C. Feb. 8rd, 1904.

Dear Sir: In the course of the debate last night relating to the dismissal of these officials, I indicated that in the event of an amendment which I brought forward being thrown out I should immediately resign my seat on the council. At the same time I challenged four other aldermen to do the same, and my challenge was accepted by Messrs. Macdonald and Petch, who doubtless stated prepared to make good their word.

In accordance with this arrangement, my amendment having been rejected, I beg herewith to tender my resignation, to take effect at once. The object that I have in view in adopting this course is to place upon record in the most public and emphatic manner my disapprobation of the majority of the council in summarily dismissing without explanation, investigation or trial five officials of the city whom I believe to be thoroughly competent and honest men. And at the same time I wish to express my opinion of obtaining from the electors of this city their verdict upon the dismissal of these officials, which proceeding I hold to be a piece of gross and glaring injustice on the part of the majority of the council.

Yours faithfully, F. W. ROLT.

THE SECOND CHALLENGE.

At the same time Alderman Rolt advised Aldermen Rolt and McDonald of his action in respect to his resignation. In the following terms: Aldermen R. B. McDonald and Petch: Dear Sirs: In accordance with the statement which I made at the council meeting last night, I have just sent in my resignation to take effect from today. You stated publicly last night that if I would resign my seat on the council you would resign yours, this announcement was made in response to a challenge from me to do so, and being uttered in the presence of the council and members of the public, I now call upon you to make good your word by sending in your resignation of your seat on the council at the earliest possible date.

Yours faithfully, F. W. ROLT.

CHANGED HIS MIND.

"You may say," said Alderman Petch yesterday afternoon, "that I have been thinking of resigning my seat on the council, but now I believe there would be no sense in resigning and running over again. You see, I have just written Petch, who was just on his way to lunch and in a hurry, 'we now have a majority at the council.'"

BABY'S DANGER.

The fact that so-called soothing medicines put children to sleep is no sign that they are being helped, on the contrary they are dangerous and distinctly harmful—the little one has been merely drugged into temporary insensibility, the seat of the trouble has not been reached. Never give a child an opiate except under the watchful eye of a competent physician, and remember that all "soothing" medicines contain opiates. When your little one is not well, when it has any little stomach or bowel trouble, or any

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