

MINING SEASON DRAWS TO CLOSE

Review of Work in Barkerville District—Bright Outlook for Next Year

The hydraulic season of 1910 has now about drawn to a close and the majority of the mine managers have taken their departure for the coast. Mother Earth has again covered with a mantle of snow about 18 inches in depth, which is an indication that winter has now set in for good, says the Ashcroft Journal. The past season has been fairly successful and whilst we have been unfortunate in having, perhaps, the shortest hydraulic season in the history of hydraulic mining here, yet the gold output has been considerably in excess of last year.

In view of the fact that, within a few years we will have a transcontinental railway almost intersecting one of the richest placer belts ever discovered, and a branch line running from the main line along the Willow river to Barkerville and a wagon road from the coast to the near Lake country, it should be a strong inducement for miners, speculators and promoters to acquire claims in this district.

The magnificent showing in the many quartz discoveries made recently by E. E. Armstrong and others; the successful placer strike made by the Venture Mining Company in the deep ground of West's creek; the good prospects lately obtained by Joseph Wendle on his hydraulic properties on Willow river, together with many other discoveries of more or less importance, has attracted the attention of the mining public in a manner not qualified since the quartz excitement in the days of '49, or the last placer excitement in 1871, when the now famous lightning creek was discovered, which is still producing according to the best authorities, about \$7,000,000. Amongst a few of the other large producing creeks we might mention: Williams creek and tributaries, which produced approximately \$9,000,000; Stevens creek, \$1,000,000; California creek, \$1,000,000; Antler creek, \$5,000,000; Grouse creek, \$3,000,000; Towhee creek, \$3,000,000; Mosquito creek, \$3,000,000; Nelson creek, \$3,000,000; Burns creek, \$1,000,000; Dragon creek, \$1,000,000; Strath creek, \$1,000,000; and a large number of smaller creeks too numerous to mention here. On conservative estimates we are of opinion that, within a radius of 25 miles around Barkerville district, there are at least 100 creeks and their tributaries, the majority of which prospect high in gold and silver minerals.

The chief reason for the lack of development of a large number of creeks in this great gold producing belt is the great difficulty in handling the large amount of water in the creek beds in sinking, and the high cost of transportation of machinery and supplies, which is at present \$2 per ton. All these drawbacks will be easily minimized if not entirely eradicated on the advent of railroad transportation into this district.

The operating hydraulic mines are all yielding dividends, and it is confidently expected that an additional number will be opening next season. The larger mines will be equipped and running next season, might be mentioned Dismalton, Last Chance and Stewart's creek. The management of the Stewart's creek plant is also being installed at the north Wales shore the direction of J. A. Pinner. Workings on Sugar creek will be opened up by Messrs. Chas. Edwards and Pinkerton and Cunningham creek by J. Mahon. J. Wendle will operate a number of plants on Willow river. There are a number of transfers and arrangements now pending, and it is probably in operation this coming season.

We can with confidence predict that with each succeeding year will be added still greater number of dividend paying properties to those already in operation.

VICTIMS OF CHOLERA LYING IN STREETS

Chinese Desert Village When Plague Breaks Out—Many Succumb

(Times Leased Wire.)
Hongkong, Dec. 12.—Spreading from Mongolia, the plague and cholera are ravaging the Russian-Manchurian frontier and scores have fallen victims to the disease. All Russian towns have been picketed by soldiers, and the Chinese quarter at Harbin has been isolated since November 12th.

Russian physicians are experiencing much trouble in caring for the sick owing to the superstitions of the natives. One village of 200 souls, Chintso Sung, is reported to be practically deserted. It is said that the natives fled, leaving the dead and dying victims of cholera in the streets and houses.

MEXICAN SITUATION.

Conditions in Republic Reported to Be Normal.

Los Angeles, Cal., Dec. 12.—Enrique Creel, son of the Mexican minister for foreign affairs, is not a prisoner in a rebel camp, according to the following telegram, received to-day from E. L. Johnson, a Los Angeles magnate, who is touring Mexico:

FISHING PLANS FOR QUEEN CHARLOTTE

HEAVY INVESTMENT IN NEW INDUSTRY

Northern Islands Look for Busy Times Next Year, Says D. R. Young

(From Monday's Daily.)

Queen Charlotte has a bright future before her, and she is growing slowly but surely. So says D. R. Young, editor of the Queen Charlotte News, who is down in the Capital on business.

Careful and steady investment of millions of capital by Victoria, Vancouver and other investors in farm lands, timber lands, and coal lands have reached such a stage that they are all going ahead in earnest. The following coal companies are going ahead: Island River Coal Co., Ltd.; Queen Charlotte Island Coal Co., Ltd.; A. C. Frost & Co., Ltd.; Massena Syndicate Coal Co., Ltd.; Graham Island Collieries, Ltd. These are making preparations for proving and developing their coal fields next spring, when not less than six diamond drills will be in operation.

The fishing industry is going ahead by leaps and bounds. The wharfage station at Esquimalt has changed hands at \$1,000,000, and the Pacific plant is ready for an immense fishery at Queen Charlotte. The Molton Fish and Refining company are preparing to erect a plant at a cost of not less than \$15,000, and the Queen Charlotte Cold Storage and Black Cod Fish company have a plant now under construction at Esquimalt. The construction of the railway from Queen Charlotte to the head of Masset is assured, Mr. Young says. The wireless station at Koda Head has been completed, and the one at Lone Tree Point, with telephone lines to Queen Charlotte, is now under construction. The railway will give splendid service with the outside world.

The provincial government's revenue from the islands has more than doubled during the past year. The revenue reaches nearly the half-million mark. The investments for the past two years in timber, fisheries, farm lands, coal lands and minerals give promise of a return of about \$20,000,000.

The Moresby Island company of Queen Charlotte have furnished an average of 15,000 tons per month for the past year to the G. T. P. railway. When taking into consideration there were only about two dozen resident white people on the island three years ago last May we feel that we have been doing very well at the islands," said Mr. Young.

(Concluded on page 4.)

ELECTION RACE CONTINUES EVEN

ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTY YET TO BE ELECTED

Earl of Crewe Predicts Early Settlement of Constitutional Question

(Special to the Times.)

London, Dec. 12.—Following is the standing of the parties at 1 o'clock this afternoon:

Unionists	227
Liberals	186
Labor and Socialists	22
Nationalists	67
Independent Nationalists	6
To be elected	160
Unionist gains 21; Liberal gains 22.	

The votes cast are as follows: Unionist, 1,622,862; Liberal, 1,606,251; Labor, 275,731; Socialist, 6,506; Nationalist, 22,716; Independent Nationalist, 13,587.

David Lloyd George, chancellor of the exchequer, who was most bitterly assailed by the peers of all the Liberals, was on Saturday returned by the Welsh constituency of the Carnarvon district—with an increased majority.

The following are results of elections held on Saturday:

Essex: Walthamstow-Silmon, Liberal, 16,398; Belcham, Unionist, 13,475. Unchanged.
York: Colne Valley—Leach, Liberal, 5,147; Carpenter, Unionist, 4,847. Unchanged.

Leaders Speak.

After the declaration of the poll at East Fife Premier Asquith stated that he would now go forward to the grave and serious task now set before the Liberal party, reinforced by the knowledge that he had behind him the loyalty and confidence of his constituents.

Winston Churchill at Darford said that it is clear that the nation is going to give premier Asquith an adequate majority for all the great purposes in the political conflict, which are now open before the British nation.

Mr. B. Smith, speaking at Openhaw, said of the 70,000 votes in Manchester, the Liberals polled a majority of less than 3,000 over the Unionists. Manchester would surrender to next assault.

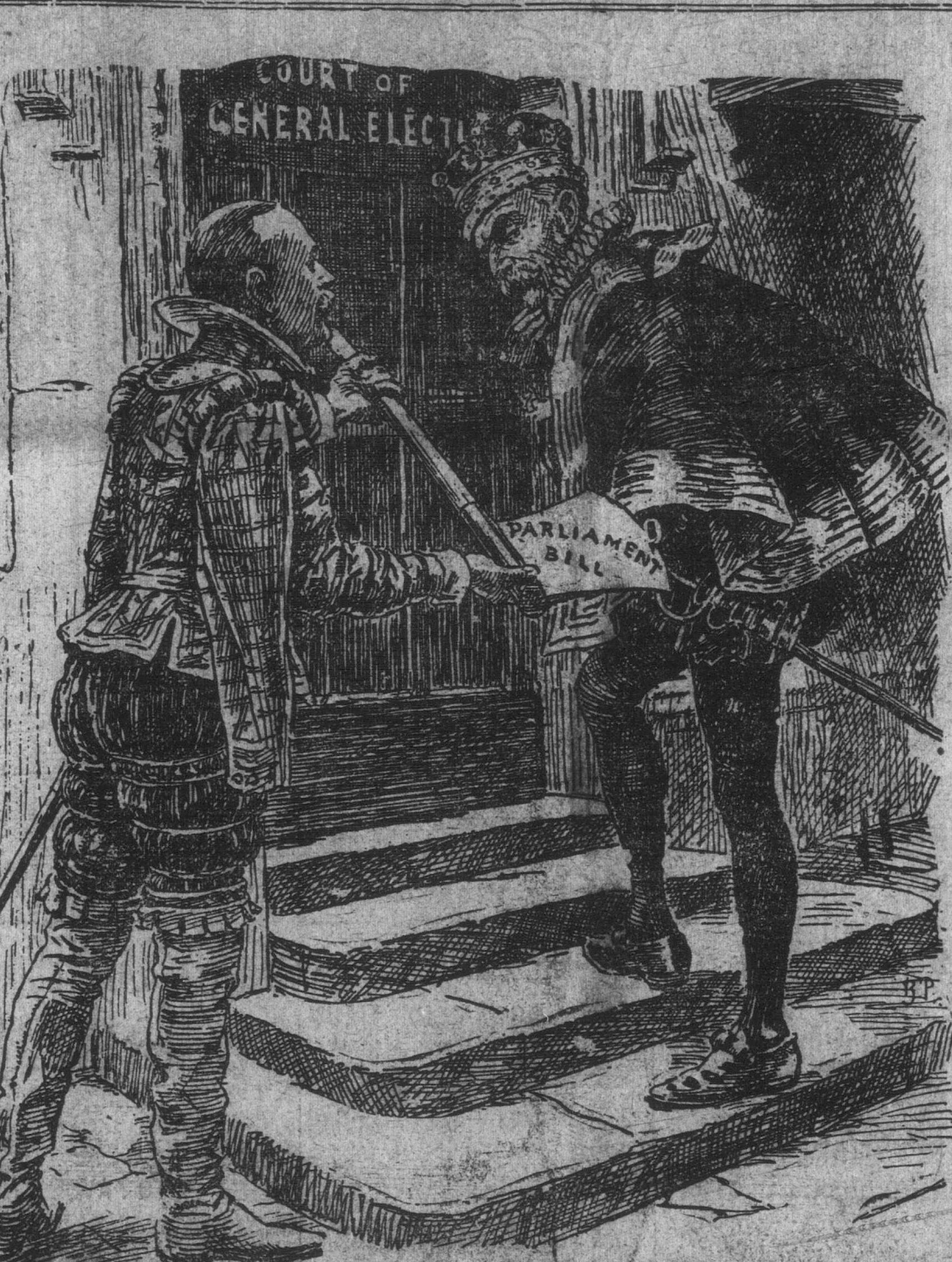
Polling in all Lancashire and Cheshire constituencies are full of good omen.

Earl Crewe at Newmarket said the new parliament had come to stay, and before long the constitutional question would be settled once and for all.

SETTLEMENT IN SIGHT.

(Special to the Times.)

Springfield, N. S., Dec. 12.—A settlement of the strike is expected at an early date. General Manager Butler, of the Coal Company, expresses a willingness to meet the men's representatives.



LORD CREWE. "This, I think, is the instrument you were enquiring about?" LORD LANSLOWNE (on his way to trial). "Thanks, I thought I'd just like to glance at it."

VICTORIA WEST WANTS TO KNOW

KNOTTY PROBLEM IN Sooke Lake Scheme

Must They Pay for Project by Which They Cannot Hope to Benefit?

(From Monday's Daily.)

Shall the property owners of Victoria West, who cannot hope to benefit from the project, be called upon to pay part of the cost of the huge undertaking involved in bringing water to Sooke Lake? It is this that they should be asked to do so, seeing that they are compelled to purchase water from a private company and must continue to do so for a great many years under the terms of the franchise possessed by that company? Should not those favoring the Sooke by-law under consideration give the owners in Victoria West some assurance that they will be exempt from taxation for that scheme?

These are pertinent questions which the ratemakers in Ward One are asking these days, and reference to this phase of the question is likely to be made at this evening's meeting of the city council, when Mayor Morley will introduce a Sooke Lake water by-law. While every member of the aldermanic board is anxious to facilitate in every way possible the placing of the by-law before the ratemakers at the earliest possible moment, several feel that in justice to the people of Victoria West it should be so framed as to provide that they should be immune from taxation, if such an arrangement can by any possibility be arrived at.

A conservative estimate of the cost of the Sooke Lake project is \$2,000,000, and the proportion of this sum which would have to be met by Victoria West ratemakers would be considerable. This, taken in conjunction with the fact that the people across the Arm are already suffering a disability in that they are called upon to pay a water rate to the private company in which excess of that charged by the city to its consumers, is felt to be fatal to the hope of getting their support.

Advocates of the Sooke Lake scheme, however, profess to be quite certain that the people of Victoria West will be numbered amongst the most enthusiastic supporters of the by-law, arguing that the scheme will prove beneficial to the whole city and therefore beneficial to Victoria West. They refuse to admit that to ask them to pay a proportion of the cost of an enterprise which cannot offer them any relief in respect to a solution of their water problem is to outrage every principle of equity.

It is claimed in some quarters that the Sooke scheme is being advanced at an inopportune time, in that already Victoria West is chafing under grievances against the policy of the city council to such an extent that secession has been talked of. The proposal to make the people in that quarter pay for something which will not benefit them is hardly calculated to allay this feeling of discontent, it is contended.

REVISION COURT CONCLUDES WORK

IMPORTANT DECISIONS GIVEN ON LEGAL POINTS

Total Enrollment of Voters on the Mayor's List is Now 7,346

(From Monday's Daily.)

The court of revision on the municipal voters' lists, consisting of the mayor and Ald. Saragiso and the city solicitor, finished its labors this afternoon, when a final session was held. Some important decisions in respect to legal points which had arisen were made by the city solicitor.

There is a total enrollment of voters on the mayor's list of 7,346, 184 names having been struck off for various causes. This is an increase of approximately 11 per cent. on the list of last year, which totalled 6,598.

By a ruling of City Solicitor E. A. McDiarmid it was ordered that no member of a firm or company holding a trader's license shall be entitled to vote, the opinion of the solicitor being that such license was impersonal and therefore inoperative as giving any right to vote. This is understood to be contrary to the practice in other cities in Canada.

It was also ordered that where a declarant male household head has not paid his \$2 tax until after November 1, he shall not be entitled to vote.

The lessee of premises which are assessed shall have no locus standi.

OVER HUNDRED MUTINEERS KILLED

VICTORY OF LOYAL BRAZILIAN TROOPS

Number of Spectators Shot While Watching Bombardment of Island

(Times Leased Wire.)

London, Dec. 12.—Loyal Brazilian troops are in full possession of Combra Island, the scene of Saturday's mutiny, according to advices received to-day by the Brazilian minister here. Nearly 600 mutineers are under arrest.

The dispatch said that during Saturday's fighting approximately 150 mutineers were killed. When the prisoners were marched out of the barracks a concerted break was made and a dozen more were shot.

The Brazilian hospitals are filled with wounded sailors and soldiers, several of the land batteries having been shelled.

It was reported that spectators, many thousands of whom gathered to see the bombardment of the mutineers by the loyal ships in the harbor.

SEARCH FOR OPIUM.

Seattle, Wash., Dec. 12.—Forty men employed by the United States customs service are to-day making a thorough search of every compartment of the big liner for opium, for contraband opium. Since the ship arrived in port, the customs officials have unearthed scores of tin of the prohibited drug worth \$10,000. The stuff was found in old clothes, in chain lockers and in boxes of soap wrapped up in boric acid.

The immense quantity of the drug seized convinces the authorities that an organized band of smugglers is at work.

STEAMER OLYMPIA GOES ON REEF DURING GALE

Alaska Liner Runs on Rocks While on Voyage from Cordova to Valdez—Passengers and Crew Have Been Rescued.

(Times Leased Wire.)

Cordova, Alaska, Dec. 12.—The fate of 103 persons aboard the Alaska Steamship company's steamer Olympia, which is pounding to pieces on a reef near Bligh Island, Prince William sound, was unknown here at an early hour to-day. Several vessels have put out from here and from Valdez to aid the ship. The gale, which began Saturday, still sweeps the sound, and grave fears are entertained for the safety of those who took passage on the vessel.

When the Olympia left here Saturday night there were 52 passengers aboard, most of whom were bound for Valdez and Sevard. Amongst them were United States District Judge E. E. Cushman, Mrs. Cushman, United States District Attorney George R. Walker and other members of the third district court, who were en route to Valdez, where court was to convene to-day.

The ship is in command of Captain J. Daniels and carries a crew of fifty-four men.

The Olympia sailed from Cordova at 6 o'clock Saturday night, having arrived from Seattle earlier in the day. She carried a number of passengers who previously had sailed on the steamship Northwestern, which went aground at False Bay, San Juan Island, December 2.

The night was clear, but a 55-mile gale was blowing when the ship started for Valdez.

It is believed that she struck the reef at midnight, as a wireless call for aid was picked up at the naval wireless operating station shortly afterwards. The call was answered immediately and Operator Hayes aboard the wrecked vessel flashed the news that the Olympia had struck the reef and that high seas were breaking over her.

According to Hayes, the ship had struck an exposed position on Bligh Island and the passengers were in the peril. Hayes did not explain the cause of the wreck.

The message was received with difficulty. Then for several hours nothing more was heard from the craft. At 10 o'clock Sunday morning another message was received from Hayes in which he said that the storm was getting worse and the steamer was helpless and was being pounded against the rocks. The pounding, Hayes explained, made it almost impossible to hear the wireless.

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FAIL TO AGREE.

Members of Winnipeg Conciliation Board Will Submit Two Reports to Minister of Labor.

Winnipeg, Dec. 12.—The abortive sittings of the conciliation board which has been endeavoring to settle the dispute between the street railway and its men ended abruptly to-day when it was announced that the majority and minority reports were being submitted to the minister of labor in Ottawa. The majority which was signed by W. J. Christie, chairman, found that the company was justified in dismissing the four men in question and that there was no proof of discrimination. The minority report, signed by Mayor Pelletier, of Port Arthur, on behalf of the men, is in the nature of a compromise, suggesting that the company take back three of the men discharged without pay for lost time, subject to the men consenting to a new rule on personal conduct to prevent further misunderstandings and to the withdrawal by the men of the charge of discrimination. He further recommends that the company institute a system of overseeing men on report for duty.

The men will hold a meeting to consider the situation. There is considerable strike talk.

KANSAS FARM TRAGEDY.

Suspect Is Taken Into Custody in Connection With Murder of Four Persons.

Kansas City, Kan., Dec. 12.—John Silegier, a farm hand, was arrested to-day on suspicion of having been connected with the murder of four persons on the Seward farm near here, Saturday night.

Silegier's finger prints will be taken and probably will constitute the most important factor in establishing his guilt or innocence. His arrest is said to have been made because the finger prints of his left hand corresponded very closely to stains made by a bloody hand on one of the walls where the quadruple murder was committed. Chief of Police Stimmer personally caused Silegier's arrest.

SHOULD HOLD OVER SEVEN FEET AND NO LEAK

Smith's Hill Reservoir Furnishes Another Surprise—Will Remain Eight Feet

(Times Leased Wire.)

At 11 o'clock this morning there was 7 feet 7 inches of water in the reservoir at Smith's Hill, and there was, according to the information received by the city engineer, no sign of any leakage whatever. It is just one week since the operation of refilling the big basin was commenced, after it had been emptied and some temporary repairs effected. The fact that with the quantity of water in it it is still holding tight would seem to indicate that this repair work has proved effective.

"I shall let the reservoir fill up to a depth of eight feet," said the engineer to the Times this morning, "and hold it at that until March, when the season of the year will be more favorable for undertaking any further necessary repairs on a large and permanent scale."

It may be added that no special attempt is being made to refill the reservoir, the surplus over consumption merely being allowed to run in each night.

AUTO FATALITY.

Steamship Agent Crushed to Death When Car Capsizes.

Gonzales, Cal., Dec. 12.—An inquest into the death of Lendal M. Gray, coast agent of the Cosmos Steamship Company, who was killed by his automobile here yesterday, probably will be held this afternoon.

Gray's death, it is believed, was the result of driving his automobile at a high speed over roads full of sandy stretches. His machine overturned when it struck one of these places. At the time it was travelling about 30 miles an hour, it is said, and the Gray's wife and James Rooks, his chauffeur, who were in the automobile were not injured beyond a severe shaking up. His dog, which sat on the seat beside him, was killed. Mrs. Gray and the dog were caught under the tonneau of the overturned machine.

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