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Provincial News.

FERNIE.

The Crow's Nest Pass Coal Company has commenced exporting coal as well as coke to the United States. The coal is going to Helena and is entered through the customs at a valuation of $3 per ton.

KASLO.

The lake has risen almost fourteen feet at this point so far. Owing to the changeable and cool weather, there will be no flood at Kaslo this year.

The steamer Hercules has brought in a big boom of logs from Lardo, and Buchanan's mill will probably be started up.

James J. Hill, president of the Great Northern railway, came in Sunday morning on a flying trip.

CASCADE CITY.

The main part of the 1,000-foot bridge over Kettle river at Cascade is now all on end, and good progress is being made. The three sets of piles washed out of the spans will not seriously delay the work, as Superintendent Stewart states that if need be the piles can be driven and the entire false work to be used for the present for the two 150-foot spans can be put in after the track layers get in sight, some two or three miles up the long Christina lake grade.

HANEY.

Mr. N. Carter has finished burning his first kiln of bricks.

Mr. F. Dorman has moved up from Vancouver and has got a new machine for his brick yard to be able to put out a larger output of bricks.

Preparations are being made for a grand time on Dominion Day.

Mr. Kosky and his companions, of Lillooet, have received a shipment of lumber for the purpose of building a new house on their property.

QUESNELLE.

There has been an unusual amount of rain at Quesnelle this season and lawns and gardens, although the season is late, look well.

Times are very quiet and there is much complaint among business men about the lack of business.

Working men are all at work, not an idle man in the vicinity, and when the high water subsides there will be more help required than is obtainable.

VERNON.

The copious rains of the past few days have cheered the hearts of the farmers, and every indication now points to a bountiful harvest. The crops, considering the unusual late and backward season, are now well advanced.

Mr. Milligan, from the Coldstream ranch, spent a few days last week in the City Hospital, while suffering from an attack of measles, but returned to the ranch on Sunday, convalescent.

ASHCROFT.

Wm. Higginbottom and Walter Fearn are erecting a new house for Hon. C. A. Semlin at his ranch, Cache Creek.

Dr. Agnes Winzell was up before F. Webb, J.P., in the police court last Saturday night for practicing medicine without a provincial license. Dr. C. J. Fagan, for the medical board, through Stuart Henderson, barrister, was the prosecutor, Denis Murphy defending the accused. After a three hours' session Mrs. Winzell pleaded guilty and was fined $50.

A man named McWilliams, from Toronto, was killed near the Forks of Quesnelle last Friday by a heavy log crushing him.

MIDWAY.

Mr. Hayward, formerly assistant in the Grand Forks Customs Office, under Mr. Gilpin, is now in charge of the Midway Customs Office, and will so remain in charge until a regular officer is appointed.

Some lots were sold during the week, and it is said the purchaser, Mr. Crowell, of Cascade, will without delay commence the construction of a commodious hotel, on the western outskirts of the town as it now stands.

The general merchants of Midway will for the future close their stores at 8 o'clock in the evening, and it is understood, as soon as sufficient notice has been given, the stores will also be closed on the Sabbath day, and rightly so.

GREENWOOD.

H. Warrington, a prominent mining engineer, with headquarters at Republic, spent several days in the district this week. Mr. Warrington is impressed with the great possibilities of the district and expects to return here at an early date.

An effort is being made to organize a lacrosse team in the city. There are several oldtime players in the city.

Mr. D. C. Corbin intends building the telegraph line to Greenwood immediately. The work will be rushed, so that Greenwood may have two telegraph systems in a very short time.

A. N. Pelly has returned to Greenwood after an absence of two years. He was here with Leslie Hill and secured some mining interests. During his absence Mr. Pelly made a hard trip to Dawson via the Edmonton route.

ALBERNI.

(Special to the Times.)

Alberni, June 15.—Hayes camp at Nahmint has been shut down for a time, it is believed with a view to a sale. Mr. Hayes and a party of prominent mining men from Spokane went down last week to look at the property, and it is understood to be showing up in excellent style. Several camps are working on Anderson Lake, where Mr. Hayes also owns some claims upon which he has gangs of men employed.

The Lake Shore and other properties are also being worked. Mr. Starks is pushing development on his claims in Sang Basin and the lead shows up well. The Alberni Consolidated, the Golden Eagle and the Three W's, are all being steadily worked.

Alberni is going to celebrate Dominion Day in patriotic style. There will be boat and canoe races and other kinds of athletic sports on the Anderson property, and probably a big dance to wind up with.

The bicycle club is growing with surprising rapidity, thirty members having already joined, about a third of them being ladies, the flying wheel having many ardent devotees here among the fair sex.

The ladies of the English church advertise a bazaar for the 24th, the proceeds of which are to be devoted to the building fund of the church.

SILVERTON.

The watchman at the Comstock Mines, reports several bear as hanging around that place.

Frank Ryan, who has been dangerously ill in the Sandon Hospital, is now convalescent and expects to be back in Silverton in a few days.

LILLOOET.

Billy Johnson, teamster for Veith & Borland, had his hand badly smashed and right leg seriously injured in a runaway on Clinton hill last week.

The Lorne arrastra is kept going and from a recent run of about 6 days over $65 was taken out. The arrastra will be kept going until the end of the month, when the gang will come to town.

SLOCAN CITY.

A pretty wedding took place here Monday evening, the contracting parties being Miss M. L. Bennett, second daughter of Mrs. S. E. Bennett of this place, and A. R. Balderstone, also of Slocan City. The ceremony was performed at the home of the bride's mother by the Rev. A. M. Sanford, of Sandon.

Henry Stephenson, employed at Shook and Arnok's sawmill, narrowly escaped being killed on Monday. The cable used in hauling the logs snapped and the end struck Stephenson on the head, cutting him badly.

ROSSLAND.

The Columbia Telephone Company has applied to the city council for a franchise to put poles and stretch wires in this city. The company is now constructing a telephone line from Trail to Camp McKinney, and this line must be completed by the 1st of July. When this line is finished the company will have 400 miles at its disposal.

A banquet is to be tendered Hon. Charles H. Mackintosh on Tuesday, June 26th.

The Masonic temple, which was virtually destroyed by fire on Friday night, will be rebuilt. All the details of the rebuilding have not been agreed upon, but it is thought that the structure will be made larger and better than the old one. It is claimed that the sum of $5,000 will be spent on the proposed building. The loss on the building and regalia will be about $3,500, most of which will fall on the Blue lodge of Masons. The loss is only partially covered by insurance.

The Archdeacon of Columbia met the Anglican congregation in Brown's hall on Wednesday evening, when there was a large attendance, over a hundred being present, to receive the archdeacon and his news of the arrival on Thursday week of the Rev. William Clarke, who is in charge of Trail, having been ordained a month ago by the Archbishop of Ruperts Land for this parish.

The sitting of the Supreme Court, which was to have taken place in Rossland at the close of the present assize at Nelson has been cancelled.

The local Salvation Army corps has in contemplation the erection of a larger and more commodious barracks than the one at present in use. Brigadier Howell is looking for a site.

At the meeting of the City Council on Tuesday night the rate of the tax levy was fixed at 16 mills; 10 mills for the purpose of meeting the running expenses of the city, and six mills to provide a sinking fund and the payment of interest upon outstanding debentures. On the 10 mills a rebate of six per cent. will be allowed to all who pay their taxes on or before the 1st day of August next. To those who pay before that date the levy will be 14 1-3 mills, and those who pay after, 16 mills. The levy will be made on the full valuation of the real estate and upon 50 per cent. valuation on improvements. As all the taxable property of the city amounts to nearly $2,000,000 there will be about $20,000 if the taxes are all paid, to meet the running expenses of the city, and $12,000 to pay interest and provide a sinking fund for the city's indebtedness.

The street work for the past week amounted to $678.50, which was ordered paid.

NELSON.

The Hall Mines made the regular shipment of lead-silver bullion on Monday to the refinery at Newark, New Jersey. There was twenty odd tons in the shipment which had a value of $3,574.

The till of the Divide hotel, on the Robson-Penticton railway, sixteen miles west of Brooklyn, was broken into on Friday night during the absence of the proprietor, Joseph H. Graham, and $400 worth of cheques stolen. The cheques were drawn on the Bank of Montreal at Nelson, and payment has been stopped.

The big copper furnace at the smelter will be blown in on the 20th instant.

The appropriation of prize money recommended by the Dominion Day celebration committee is as follows: Horse races, $900; drilling contest, $500; Caledonian sport, $175; hose cart races, $500; boat races and illuminations, $450; lacrosse, $250; bicycle races, $100; baseball, $250; children's sports, $35; trap shooting, $100; lawn tennis, $75; and trades procession, $100.

At a meeting of the Board of Trade on Monday a letter was received from the Rossland Board of Trade stating that the first joint meeting of the Board of Trade of Kootenay and the Boundary districts will be convened in Rossland on Thursday, August 3rd. Each board will be represented by two delegates. The Rossland board requested that the representatives of the South Kootenay Board of Trade be selected at once, and their names forwarded to Rossland so that special rates for transportation can be arranged. The letter also requested that thirty days' notice in writing be given of the special subjects which the South Kootenay Board of Trade desires to have discussed at the joint meeting.

The Salvation Army is located in their new quarters on Victoria street.

The unfortunate city wharf is getting very loose at the far end, and it is doubtful if part of it will last over the high water.

The regular monthly meeting of the directors of the Kootenay Lake General Hospital was held on Tuesday. The canvassing committee reported that $1,580 have been subscribed for the building fund and that they did not anticipate any difficulty in raising the balance of the $2,000 necessary to secure the grant of $500 from the city council. After discussion it was decided to procure plans for the proposed addition to the hospital. A large number of applications for the position of resident house surgeon were received. No selection was made.

At a meeting of the police commissioners Charles French was appointed policeman. The appointment is only for one month, but should French give satisfaction he will probably be permanently appointed. The question of the powder magazines on Magazine Point, across from the city, was discussed and the commissioners decided to instruct the police officers to enforce compliance with the provincial statute which prohibits the maintenance of a magazine within two miles of the city. The commissioners also decided to appoint 12 special constables for duty in connection with the Dominion Day celebration from June 30th to July 4th. Six of the specials will be employed during the days and six during the nights of the celebration.

The masonry work on the big stone addition to Reisterer's brewery is now completed.

John A. Turner, government agent, has been instructed to call for tenders for the erection of the land registry office on the corner of Vernon and Stanley streets. The building when completed will cost something over $10,000.

Now that the snow is going the recorder's office is being kept busy with new locations and assessments. For several days past assessments have been recorded at the rate of twenty-five a day.

The residence of Mr. and Mrs. William Irvine was the scene of a very pretty wedding on Wednesday evening, the contracting parties being J. Herbert Johnston, clerk in Messrs. F. Irvine & Co.'s, and Miss Bessie C. Blackadar, of St. John, N.B. Rev. C. W. Rose, of the Nelson Baptist church, performed the ceremony.

VANCOUVER.

The city treasury was increased on Wednesday by several police court fines imposed upon individuals who prefer wheeling on the sidewalks to using the roads.

The firemen had a second call on Wednesday morning when about 9 o'clock some tar barrels and other inflammable material caught alight in the waterworks yards. Little damage resulted, but considerable excitement prevailed during the blaze.

At a meeting of the school trustees the chairman reported that he, with other trustees, had waited upon the finance committee, which it appeared, was willing to place $1,750 at the board's disposal to defray the expenses of fitting up the East End school, and that he had advised the board to have a by-law submitted to raise the funds to purchase the suggested land for building additional school premises. Moved and carried that the secretary write to the city clerk, asking that the $1,750 be placed at the board's disposal at once, to enable the needed extension of the East End school to be taken in hand.

The health inspector and police are getting down on builders and others who are obstructing the public streets. On Wednesday a city contractor appeared in the police court to answer the charge of obstructing both Cordova and Water streets. Officer Wylie proved that the defendant had building material deposited on the two streets over 18 feet out from the sidewalks, which were also taken up with lumber, etc. As the accused had previously been summoned on the same charge and given time to conform with the by-law, His Worship imposed a fine of $10. Porter Brothers, of Cordova street, were summoned for obstructing the lane in the rear of Hastings and Cordova streets and given a day to conform with the requirements of the by-law.

The residence of Mr. H. H. Slayton, Beach avenue, was the scene of a quiet, but pretty, double wedding on Wednesday evening. The contracting parties were Mr. J. W. Hodgson, of this city, and Miss Campbell, of Kelowna, B. C., and Mr. R. C. Hodgson, of the firm of Knowdell & Hodgson, and Miss Minnie Gale, both of this city. The knots were tied respectively by the Rev. J. Reid, jr., of the First Presbyterian church, and Rev. E. Scott, of the Homer street Methodist church.

Mount Pleasant witnessed a pretty wedding on Wednesday morning when the Rev. J. Irvine united in marriage Miss Ada Blair and Mr. Calvert Simson, both of this city.

Two Chinamen, for careless driving while going to a funeral resulting in injuries to the little son of Mr. and Mrs. Wise, of Westminster avenue, were fined $20 and costs by the police magistrate on Thursday.

Two civic officials of Nelson are visiting the Coast. They are City Engineer A. L. McCulloch and Alderman Beer, chairman of the finance committee. The official object of the visit is for the purpose of inspecting crematory plants. On Thursday they paid a visit to Mayor Garden at the city hall, and during the day Colonel Tracy and Health Officer Marrion drove the visitors out to the city crematory and furnished them with full details concerning its working, etc.

Among the many magnificent business blocks that have recently been erected in Vancouver, the Molson's Bank building, on the corner of Hastings and Seymour streets, stands out conspicuously. The bank opened its doors in the block this week, when Manager Lockwood and his staff of assistants removed from their temporary quarters adjoining the Leland hotel. The new Molson's Bank block is six stories high, or 80 feet, with a depth of 52 feet, and its total cost was in the neighborhood of $100,000.

The marriage of Ada Maud, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Whitworth, of Homer street, and George Buscombe took place in Christ Church on Thursday. The Rev. L. Norman Tucker performed the ceremony.

St. James' church was the scene of two weddings on Wednesday evening. At 7:30 o'clock the rector, Rev. H. G. E. Clinton, united in marriage Miss Helen Hunt, late of Winnipeg, and Mr. George Dalby, of Messrs. Spillman & Company.

A pretty wedding took place from Mr. Timms' residence on the Hill earlier in the evening, when the rector of St. James' church was called upon to unite in the sacred bonds of marriage Miss Isabelle Blackburn, of Toronto, and Mr. J. Borebanks, of this city.

Another handsome brick and stone block is about to be erected on Hastings street. Mr. A. Gilmour, of Victoria, is having a block 75 by 70 put up on his lots east of Carrall street adjoining Ford's grocery store.

Chief Stewart expects to be strong enough to resume duty this week. Altogether he will have been laid up over 10 weeks.

Two exciting runaway's took place on Hastings street on Saturday. The first occurred shortly before 1 p.m., when a rancher's team bolted and, passing Campbell's shoe store, smashed the rear wheel of a bicycle to pieces. It then turned down Cambie street and, after damaging Mr. T. Marshall's rig, tried to go through his shop. It was then secured. The second runaway was somewhat more exciting. A team owned by Gross & McNeill started from in front of Weeks & Robson's, and headed down Seymour street at a full gallop. On reaching Cordova they kept straight ahead, jumped the high sidetrack and, crashing through the fence, took a 4-foot drop onto the grass in front of the C.P.R. train despatcher's office. The team however kept on travelling, but came to grief at the raised sidewalk leading to the Canadian Pacific railway office.

Bunco men are again getting down to systematic work on the coast. About a week ago a "greenhorn" was fleeced to the tune of $150 in this city by a pair of sharpers with a bogus cheque. On Saturday, however, two of the same ilk again got in their work successfully in Vancouver, and that to the tune of $60.

T. H. Wymonde, a capitalist of London, Eng., is among the arrivals registered at the Hotel Vancouver. Mr. Wymonde is interested in a new oil and guano plant which is being built on the Fraser river about three miles from Steveston, and has just returned from a trip to the Columbia river where he has a similar plant in operation. The oil works when completed will give employment to about 100 men the year round and during the salmon season about twice that number will be required to keep the plant in operation.

Mr. Justice Martin has delivered judgment in the case of William Dodd vs. Lawson et. al., in which the plaintiff claimed damages for injuries sustained while operating a band saw in the B. C. box factory. Some time since a jury awarded the plaintiff $500 damages, which verdict has been confirmed after an argument on a motion for judgment.

NEW WESTMINSTER.

On Wednesday, the Rev. F. Ten Broeck Reynolds, the new rector of St. Paul's Reformed Episcopal church, this city, was married in New York, and was to leave with his bride for their new home in the West. Mr. Reynolds is expected to arrive here on the 22nd.

Perrier, the condemned prisoner, at the provincial jail, is only visited once a day now by the physician, and his spirits are not flagging. Within the past two days, he has become quite talkative.

An elderly gentleman, a Mr. Robert Walker, died here on Tuesday night, after an illness of about nine days, having succumbed to a complication of heart and kidney troubles. The deceased, who was aged 69 years, came to this province a few months ago from Sarawake, a small place near Owen Sound, Ontario.

A man named Powers, of Vancouver, who is employed on the government pile driver, met with an accident on Tuesday evening while at work at Garry Point. He was on the second staging, about 50 feet up the tall derrick of the pile driver, when in some way he lost his balance and fell. Feeling himself going, he tried to fall so that he would light in the water, but this he failed to do, lighting first on the deck, near the edge. The force of the drop was such that one leg was broken and the other ankle badly hurt, while his back was also strained. He was sent to St. Mary's hospital.

Early on Thursday morning, a man was caught in the act of burglarising the Steamboat Exchange, owned by Mr. Harry Freeman. However, he managed to escape with all the loose change he had been able to pocket.

Mr. D. J. Munn, proprietor of the Sea Island cannery, which was burned last week, went to the scene of the fire on Thursday with the appraiser and underwriters' agents by way of Vancouver. Mr. Munn said that his company had decided not to rebuild this season, but that it intended to establish a fishing camp on a large scale, having made arrangements for the disposal of all fish taken.

Like Vancouverites, Royal Citizens made much of their last half-holiday, on Wednesday. Most notably, teams representing the grocers and butchers lined up on the turf at Queen's Park in a good game of lacrosse. The result was a win for the grocers by 5 to 1.

The new fish freezing establishment, which has been erected here at a cost of over $40,000, was put in operation on Tuesday night, for the first time. The company will begin shipping fresh frozen salmon almost immediately to the foreign market. The first order to be filled will be one for ten tons, which will be forwarded by the next steamer to Australia.

Mr. J. G. Scott returned on Thursday night via the Seattle & International line from a business trip to the Sound cities. Mr. Scott accompanied Mr. Theodore Ludgate in his examination of various sites, which had been offered him in different places. In the course of this examination, visits were paid to Seattle, Fairhaven, Portland, Everett, Tacoma, Anacortes and other towns.

The funeral of the late Robert Walker took place on Friday afternoon to the Oddfellows' cemetery at Sapperton. The services were conducted by Rev. Mr. Scott, of Vancouver, and Rev. J. P. Bowell, of this city.

The board of directors of the Royal Agricultural and Industrial Society of British Columbia, met on Friday evening in the secretary's office. A lot of business in connection with the 1898 fair was transacted.

On Saturday the office of the assessor and collector was removed from the temporary office in the jail to permanent quarters in the new court house, and will be open for business to-day. The government agent's office will be removed to the court house building in the course of the week, and other provincial government offices as quickly as the rooms can be prepared.

The production of coffee is said to be increasing rapidly in South America, and to be assuming large proportions in Central Africa. In the Rio districts alone the augmented output for the four years ending 1897 was equal to 4,000,000 sacks, or about 240,000 tons.

STATE OF THE I. O. O. F.

Interesting Figures Contained in Grand Secretary Davey's Fifteenth Report.

There were many interesting facts in Grand Secretary Davey's 15th annual report at the session of the Grand Lodge I. O. O. F. in Vancouver. He reported that three lodge consolidations had taken place and in most cases had proven beneficial to the best interests of the order.

"It has," he states, "demonstrated the propriety of the legislation enacted two years ago making provision for such contingencies which although deemed by some intricate and cumbersome could not safely be simplified, in my opinion, without endangering the protection that should be affrded to the rights and interests of all the members affected."

The secretary regretted to report that it had been found necessary to recover the charter and effects of "Esther" Rebekah Lodge, No. 11, Union, and of "Bethel" Rebekah Lodge, No. 7, Mount Pleasant. Members of the former lodge express the hope that they will be in a position to apply for reinstitution.

Fernie and Trail are anxious to have new lodges and are corresponding with the secretary on the subject.

The Odd Fellows' home fund has been increased during the year $490.42. The secretary reported that strenuous efforts are being put forth in other Canadian jurisdictions on behalf of the establishment of the Odd Fellows' home.

The aged Odd Fellows' fund, which was created last session, has been benefitted to the extent of $100 more.

Regarding the subject of maximum benefits the grand secretary said that he had addressed queries to all the subordinate lodges and their answers had been turned over to the special committee for consideration. The order has gained 44 members during 1898.

In his statistics on the state of the order the secretary reported that there were 37 lodges in the province December 31, 1898, and one more had been instituted since then. There are 2,845 members of the subordinate lodges of which number 226 were initiated last year, 129 admitted by card, 17 reinstated. Six hundred and eighty-two degrees were conferred. The total revenue of the subordinate lodges was $53,208.99. Three hundred and fifty-four were relieved, 23 buried and nine widow's families helped. The amount paid for relief was $20,777.35, an increase of $3,276.45 over the previous year. The total sum expended for all relief was $24,916.60. The amount paid for relief since the institution of the grand lodge in 1874 is $228,664.56.

ARBITRATION PROPOSALS.

Germany Opposed to a Permanent Tribunal and Work of Committee Is Suspended.

The Hague, June 17.—The work of the peace conference on the arbitration question has been virtually suspended and probably will not be resumed for some days.

On semi-official authority it is said that the situation is practically this. The German government was opposed in principle to an organized arbitration court, and it is found these views existed prior to the conference and instructions to that effect were given the German delegates, and the belief in Berlin was that other powers, notably France, were instructing their delegates similarly. As the conference proceeded, the spirit of conciliation advanced and a desire to accomplish important permanent results was manifested. With this grew up schemes for an organized arbitration board, notably the British proposals, to which nearly all the delegates rallied with the authoritative support of their respective governments. This at once left the German delegates in a peculiar condition. The difficulty was not at the Hague, but at Berlin. In order to relieve the situation, Count Von Munster, head of the German delegation, after a long conference yesterday with his colleagues, decided to dispatch Dr. Zorn and Baron Von Stengel to inform the Emperor personally of the condition of affairs.

In the meantime efforts had been made to find a conciliatory scheme by the suggestion of a limited board established at the Hague under the ordinary representatives of the powers which was proposed by Mr. Andrew White, head of the American delegation. This plan Dr. Zorn and Von Stengel have been commissioned to plead to Emperor William. The question therefore is what His Majesty will reply. There is a growing belief that Emperor William is favorable if the other powers will accept the new plan as the basis of discussion and will at once proceed to discuss a definite plan for an arbitration board.

A FRENCHMAN TALKS.

One Hundred Thousand Soldiers Required in the Philippine Islands.

New York, June 17.—Henri Turot, special correspondent of L'Eclaire and Le Monde Illustre, and chief editor of La Petit Republique, returned from the Philippine Islands by way of Vancouver, and sailed for France to-day in order to report the result of his mission to his papers.

In an interview regarding the American soldiers, M. Turot said: "Your soldiers fight with great bravery, but it is impossible not to remark the lack of discipline among the volunteers. The latter conduct themselves well under fire, but they pay little attention to obedience to their chiefs. In spite of the energetic measures of these chiefs there has been regrettable pillaging. Also at times the volunteers have committed acts of grave lack of discipline. During one of the expeditions of General Lawton against Santa Cruz, some of the volunteers threw their rifles into the river and refused to go further."

M. Turot continued, "it does not seem to me possible to hope for a complete victory during the rainy season. The difficulty of a campaign in this country of mountains and excessive heat, must not be forgotten. It also seems to me incontestible that for the conquest of the interior 100,000 men will not be too many. We knew in France what the system of 'Little Parcels' has cost. It is an example which the United States would do well to follow."

In St. Petersburg is the largest bronze statue in existence—that of Peter the Great, which weighs 1,000 tons.

ALASKAN BOUNDARY QUESTION.

Diplomacy has tried its hand at the Alaskan boundary question without success, and if we are to believe the copious telegrams which have been supplied to the British press by New York and Washington correspondents, it is solely due to Canadian obstinacy that a settlement of this long-standing dispute has not been arrived at. But is Canada really grasping, obstinate, or unreasonable in her demands? A survey of the facts of the case will, we think, completely refute that assertion, and demonstrate that Ottawa's attitude is absolutely justifiable. The dispute has its origin in the Anglo-Russian treaty of 1825, which provides that the dividing line between Alaskan and Canadian territory is to follow the ridge of mountains nearest the coast, but that when this ridge is "more than ten marine leagues from the ocean," the boundary shall be "ten marine leagues from the coast." The crucial question is: What is the coast? The United States contend that it follows the windings of the bays, creeks and inlets which abound in that locality, while on the other hand, Canada maintains that the ten marine leagues must be measured from the sea front, jumping across the mouths of the creeks and inlets. The reasonableness of the Canadian view will be more apparent when we compare the Lynn Canal or inlet to the river Thames, and Skagway—the principal bone of contention—to the port of Gravesend. No Englishman would be so absurd as to contend that Gravesend is on the English coast, for it is very obvious that the coast line skips the mouth of the Thames from Sheerness on the one side to Shoeburyness on the other. The Lynn Canal is about as broad at its mouth as the Thames is at Shoeburyness, and the contention of the United States that the coast line goes up one side of the canal and down the other is, as we have said, as ridiculous as to claim that our own Grevesend is a coastal town.

If the United States' view is upheld, then the Lynn Canal is wholly in the United States territory, and Dyea and Skagway are undoubtedly in Alaska, and the United States, to quote the Montreal Star, will have "a perpetual toll-gate on the shortest line of march between the sea and the Canadian goldfields." If, on the other hand, the Canadian interpretation of the treaty holds good, then Skagway and Dyea should be transferred to the Dominion, and Canada will secure a free passage from the Yukon goldfields to the sea. Although it is well understood that such inlets as the Lynn Canal are, in international law, regarded as merely territorial waters, the Canadian delegates on the Anglo-American Commission, recognizing the immense importance of arriving at a satisfactory solution of the dispute, were willing that the United States should retain Skagway and Dyea, if only America would concede them Pyramid Harbor upon the northwesterly arm of the Lynn Canal. This would have given Canada the necessary "open door" to the Yukon, but the United States would not listen to the proposal.

Then Canada offered to refer the whole question to arbitration "on terms similar to those provided in reference to the Venezuelan boundary line." We are quoting from the official statement issued by the Foreign Office last February. According to this statement one of the stipulations was that "existing settlements on the tide waters of the coast should, in any result, continue to belong to the United States," so that both Dyea and Skagway would have remained part of Alaska. But Washington was obdurate, and as, under these circumstances, the Conference was brought to a deadlock, the Commissioners withdrew in order that the diplomatists might take the matter in hand. The Washington journals are now making strong appeals to the Imperial Government to ignore "colonial" views and to finally settle the dispute regardless of Canadian representations. The New York Evening Post, on the other hand, brings reason and common sense to bear on the question. "We ought," remarks this journal, "apart from any claim of right, to give the Canadians access by water to their Klondike territory. We can afford to do so. It would be befitting our dignity as a great nation. It would cost us nothing. It would smooth the way to a settlement of the Eastern Fishery question, and all the other outstanding disputes." It is, indeed, to be deplored that the United States, which professes a sincere belief in international arbitration, should decline either to compromise the Alaskan dispute or to refer the whole question to an absolutely independent tribunal.—Colonial Gold Fields Gazette, London.

Salt Rheum For Five Years

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NOTICE.

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned has applied to the Board of License Commissioners for the Cowichan District for a license under the provisions of the "Liquor License Act," 1889, and that the said application will be considered by the said Board at the Court House, Duncan, at the hour of eleven o'clock of the forenoon of the 10th day of July, 1899.

Pasquale Frumento, Central House, Cowichan Station, hotel license.

JAMES MAITLAND-DOUGALL,
Chief License Inspector.

Government Office, Duncan, B. C.