

PROF. MACOUN'S GREAT WORK

FAMOUS SCIENTIST IS VISITING CITY

He Will Remain Here Until British Association Delegates Arrive.

A man is as old as he feels. Some men are old at sixty while others are young at eighty. Professor Macoun is young at eighty, or will be next year, for he is now but three-score and nineteen years of age, ten years younger than Lord Stothman. He is still able to climb mountains, take long tramps through the woods, dredge for crustaceans or dig for clams. He enjoys life to the full, but is never satisfied unless engaged in his life work.

This week Professor Macoun is spending in Victoria. He is getting in touch with some of the local field workers in the line of botany, zoology, and other branches of natural science. He will be here when the members of the British Association come to the coast next week and he will meet his chief, Hon. William Templeman, before he leaves for the East, carrying his thousands of specimens which he has collected during the summer. These specimens will be used to stock the new museum which is being built at Ottawa, and in readiness for which thousands of birds and animals have already been collected.

John Macoun, M.A., F.R.S., one of the original twenty chosen by the Marquis of Lorne to form the Canadian branch of the Royal Society, has been identified with the development of Western Canada since the year 1872, when he first crossed the plains with Sir Sanford Fleming at the time he looked over the surveys for the original Canadian Pacific railway. With Sir Sanford he travelled from Port Arthur to Edmonton, from which place he was sent on a branch expedition to explore the Peace River pass. The pass was found and he led them in the latter part of October, and after considerable hardship and days and nights of weary travelling reached Victoria December 12th. Since that time the professor has made many trips to the capital of British Columbia, and to other parts of Western Canada. In 1875 he came to Victoria by way of San Francisco, and returned by way of the Peace River pass, down that river to Lake Athabasca, and across the plains to Winnipeg, returning East by way of St. Paul, to Belleville.

In 1877 his report of the country was published, and a third Western trip was organized in 1879, when ten parties were sent to examine the prairie country. Professor Macoun had charge of the most southerly of these, and when he returned he reported that the land which had before been reported useless was not bad land. He reported that the maps showed 30,000 square miles of Canada as being part of the Great American desert. The reports of the other parties were given to him, and from these he wrote the railway report of 1879-80.

A change of government taking place Professor Macoun was again sent out by Colonel Denis, under the government of Sir John Macdonald, to investigate the so-called bad lands of Manitoba and Saskatchewan. Other travellers who had preceded him reported that all the prairie country was barren. This the professor contradicted and showed that a country which could carry millions of cattle, elk and other animals could not possibly be barren, especially when the grass on the whole of it was higher than his knees. There were no bad lands on the prairies was his report, but he found it difficult to make the authorities believe it.

In 1879 Professor Macoun was permanently attached to the government service, and since 1881 he has been on the geological staff. After his appointment his first duty was to work up the plants of the Dominion. The result of the work was published in two volumes of 1,200 pages. While this was under preparation notes were being accumulated on the birds and mammals of the country. A catalogue with notes on the birds of Canada was then published, giving information as to their nesting habits and distribution. This has been out of print or some time past, and a second edition with additional notes is now in the press and will be published in the near future.

The notes for a book on the mammals of Canada is all ready for publication, and the professor says that if he is unable to get it published this year it will be continued by his son, who is also a worker along the same line. Professor Macoun has given a good deal of attention to Vancouver Island recently. Last year he collected specimens of the woods and 1,000 species of plants. Under his direction, C. F. Young, the biological assistant, also made a collection of crabs and starfish at the biological station at Departure Bay.

At Uchelet this year an enormous amount of work has been done and material collected. Fifty species of small fishes had been taken, all of which provide food for the larger fish, and which themselves live on crustaceans and minute creatures. Other collections include 150 seaweeds, 600 plants and 20,000 shells.

The professor says he hopes the work will be continued, and the breeding grounds and fishing banks thoroughly explored in order that the work may be of real value from a commercial and economic point of view. It is necessary to understand the food of the edible fish, the enemies, the conditions of life, and all the life history in order that the best means of exploiting and protecting them may be found.

In his work on the coast the head of the department has had valuable assistance from his co-workers, C. F. Young, biological assistant, and William Spence, field assistant, both of whom have been engaged in similar work for many years.

CONSERVATION OF WATER POWER

Speaker at Congress Praises Work of Roosevelt and Pinchott.

Seattle, Wash., Aug. 27.—Jos. N. Teal of Portland, Ore., delivered the keynote address at the opening of the National Conservation Congress yesterday, in which he praised Chief of Forestry Pinchott, and outlined the so-called Roosevelt conservation policies. He spoke in part as follows:

"Conservation means that the welfare of the people as a whole should be considered rather than the enrichment of the few. The people are awakening and the battle is now on for the preservation of the rights of the public to the public wealth."

Teal urged that it is morally wrong for congress or any state legislature to grant rights to the public domain in perpetuity because the present generation, he said, has no right to legislate for future ones which will have their own problems to work out and their own lives to live.

"When any attempt is made to correct evils resulting from this misconception of power, or misconduct of our representatives, straightway there is drafted into service the time-serving and ancient adage of the present generation, 'vested rights.' No matter what the basis of this right, whether the bloody sword of the conqueror or the grating aldermanic here of the state, 'vested rights' is there claiming protection for 'vested interests.'"

"A striking illustration of what I mean is the policy of granting water powers in perpetuity, if to-day it were proposed in this state to grant under a blanket law all of its water powers to one man, or to one corporation, public opinion would drive him down."

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NEW D. O. C. IS IN COMMAND

COL. HOLMES RETIRES. COL. PETERS SUCCEEDS

Formal Transfer of Military District With Headquarters at Work Point.

The formal transfer of the command of the military forces of British Columbia has been made, and Col. J. Peters, the new D. O. C. is in charge of the offices at Work Point barracks, Col. J. C. Holmes retiring.

The selection of a new district commander in the person of Col. Peters will prove a very popular one, as he made a host of friends when stationed at Esquimalt on two former occasions, where he was in command about ten years ago.

The new D. O. C. has been for some years in command of the district of Western Ontario, and arrived from London, his former headquarters on Monday evening. Col. Peters expects to remain here for some time, and will be in charge of the military forces of British Columbia. He is a well-known figure in the military world, and his arrival is a source of much interest to the public.

The return of the D. O. C. to his old post is not more agreeable to him than to the people of Victoria, and Esquimalt. He is a well-known figure in the military world, and his arrival is a source of much interest to the public.

Col. Peters is at present a guest at the Oak Bay hotel, and until he has made some necessary arrangements for a residence in Esquimalt district will remain at the hotel.

Col. Holmes, the retiring D. O. C., is an old resident of Victoria, having been here since 1882. The colonel's retirement is in consequence of his having reached the regular age of retirement.

Col. Holmes intends leaving for a tour of Europe which will occupy two years, but will return and probably settle in Victoria permanently. The winter will be passed with his family at Kingston, Ont., where the colonel was stationed during his early years in the service.

FRASER CHANNEL GREATLY IMPROVED

Work on the Annieville Bar Proves Success—Dredge in Operation.

New Westminster, Aug. 26.—The Annieville bar, the most dangerous spot for large shipping on the river, has been conquered, and in the future the largest of ocean-going vessels will be able to pass without danger.

Last year the Dominion government built a large wing dam on the south side of the river, on the recommendation of Resident Engineer G. A. Keefe. The high water proved to be too strong for the dam and carried part of it away. But it did its work before collapsing, and the remaining part is admirably sufficient to continue the work. Soundings taken last week showed that there was over 21 feet of water in the channel at this point in all but one place, where for a very short distance there were only 19 feet. The soundings were taken at extreme low tide and are exceedingly satisfactory to the engineer.

Regarding the work of this and the other dams, Mr. Keefe stated that all had done the work expected of them and that only the one had been damaged. This was due to the filling of the dam having been too fine. It was possible that the dam was built too long in the first place, and it would be left at the present length long enough to determine whether this was the cause or not. If it had to be built out again, the work would be made solid enough to stand any assault of the river.

Profiting by the experience gained in the recent freshet, the engineering staff is strengthening the outer ends of the dams on Lulu and Anacsis islands. The snag boat Sampson is engaged on the work and is filling in between the rows of piles with heavy logs and tree trunks.

Engineer Keefe expressed the confidence that there would be no more trouble with the Annieville bar in the future.

The snag boat Sampson is at work at the mouth of the river, taking soundings in connection with the annual government survey. The government dredge Fruhling returned to the Sandheads yesterday and is again at work on the dredging of the river channel in pursuance of the government's project of making a thirty-foot channel from the city to the gulf.

MUST PUNISH MURDERERS

British Minister Demands an Investigation by Chinese Government.

Pekin, Sept. 1.—China has declined the proposal made by Sir John Jordan, the British minister, for a joint investigation in Peking into the killing by natives in Kaitum of a British subject, Hazrah Ali, an Indian surveyor, who was attached to the meteorological expedition under Lieut. R. S. Clark, a former officer of the United States army. Mr. Fletcher, the United States chargé d'affaires, concurred in the British demand. China gives as her reason that it is impossible to bring witnesses from Kansu province. Minister Jordan holds that as the Clark expedition was travelling under American passports it devolves upon the American government to press reparation and he intimates that if the United States does not act he will take the matter into his own hands.

Hazrah Ali was a British subject and Sir John explains that it is impossible to permit his murderers to go unpunished.

CONSERVATION OF RESOURCES

AMERICAN PEOPLE ALIVE TO NECESSITY

British Columbia Delegates Return From Seattle Greatly Pleased.

Hon. F. J. Fulton and A. C. Flumerfelt, of the provincial timber and forestry commission, and L. H. Solly, land agent of the E. & N. Railway Co., have returned from Seattle, where they were attending the sessions of the first National Conservation Congress, held at the Washington Conservation Association, organizers of the congress and all felt that the time was well spent.

In addition to meeting Gifford Pinchott, chief forester of the United States and chairman of the joint committee on conservation as between the states and the nation, the commissioners met with the people of Victoria, and with the people of the neighboring union. Mr. Pinchott very courteously placed himself at the disposition of the commissioners on Friday afternoon and gave them a deal of useful information in regard to the methods of forest protection and re-forestation practiced by the United States.

The congress which took organized form as a national body before adjourning on Saturday, was the outcome of a feeling which has been growing for many years that both the federal and state legislatures have been prodigal of the nation's natural assets and that these are being used wastefully.

Many of the corporations into whose hands they have come. Numerous state conservation associations have been organized and now the national association will add the weight of its influence to the movement for conservation, but chose to retain command until he had reached the regular age of retirement.

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MISS CAMERON WILL TAKE REST

POPULAR VICTORIAN GLAD TO BE BACK

Well Known Writer Will Prepare for New Works While Here.

"Isn't Victoria lovely; oh isn't it beautiful!"

This was the first exclamation to fall from the lips of Miss Agnes Deane Cameron, Tuesday afternoon, as she extricated herself from the arms of brothers and nieces and old scholars on landing at the Princess wharf. Her welcome home was of a kind to appeal immensely to a woman of her temperament. Boys and girls who had been her pupils and who found that she was expected, excitedly swelled the family group and gave her warm welcome as she came down the gang plank with Miss Obeel, a lady friend from Chicago.

"Oh, I'm just going to loaf and rest for a month or more," she said in reply to a question as to her intentions. "It's so good to get back again" (here she glanced with suspiciously moist eyes about her) "Isn't Victoria just beautiful?"

The remark was one of endearment, not of inquiry, for it was evident that notwithstanding her great success in the east there is but one spot she calls home.

"No, I don't call Chicago my home," she said, "it is my base, but you see I have been on the go all the time. You have made good, all right. You have driven," some one suggested, "But you don't know how I have worked," she said deprecatingly. "When Appletons asked me for a book I pulled out for weeks, but thank goodness it's all over now and it is in the hands of the publishers."

Miss Cameron's book embodies her experiences and observations in the far north and will appear this fall. She will leave on the 9th for the Queen Charlotte Islands on board the Amur, accompanied by her secretary, Miss Brown, and her friend Miss Obeel of Chicago. While skirting the coast of Vancouver Island Miss Cameron intends to get as many interesting photographs as possible, of out-of-the-way places, for illustrating her forthcoming book, "Vancouver, Isle of Dreams."

This book has been a labor of love to the now famous writer, and she is apparently as proud of it as another mother of her favorite child. Into it she has put her best and brightest thoughts, and the advent of its publication will mark an era in her literary career.

At Skidegate Miss Cameron will make a special study of the Indians there, who are spoken of as a most interesting tribe.

"How intensely interesting the north is," she exclaimed, when asked about her previous trip, "and how little we know about it." Speaking of the A.-Y.-P. exposition, Miss Cameron said she had not yet visited it, but when she did the Alaska exhibit would be of especial interest to her.

"Shall I go to Prince Rupert?" she repeated with widely opened eyes. "Why certainly. Every body is interested in Prince Rupert."

The trip north will occupy eleven days and on her return Miss Cameron will deliver one of her lectures which have made her so famous throughout the east.

WEEKLY WEATHER REPORT.

Victoria Meteorological Office, 25th to 31st August, 1909.

Victoria—Total sunshine, 63 hours and 24 minutes; rain, 42 inch; highest temperature, 76 on 28th; lowest, 46 on 28th.

New Westminster—Total sunshine, 69 hours and 30 minutes; rain, 1.17 inch; highest temperature, 76 on 28th; lowest, 46 on 28th.

Kamloops—Total sunshine, 69 hours and 30 minutes; rain, 1.17 inch; highest temperature, 76 on 28th; lowest, 46 on 28th.

Port Simpson—Total sunshine, 69 hours and 30 minutes; rain, 1.17 inch; highest temperature, 76 on 28th; lowest, 46 on 28th.

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WASHINGTON SENATE ACQUITS SCHIVELY

Impeachment Charges Fail to Secure Necessary Majority of Votes.

Olympia, Wash., Aug. 27.—Through the failure to receive a two-thirds majority in support of the charges against State Insurance Commissioner J. H. Schively, the senate, sitting as a court of impeachment, acquitted the respondent late last night.

The vote on article 24, the principal indictment of the impeachment charges, stood 26 for conviction and 14 for acquittal. Under the constitution two-thirds of the members of the senate are necessary for a conviction, which means that 28 senators must vote to support the charges.

The charge of perjury against Schively was dropped by unanimous vote.

In summing up his evidence, Mr. Israel, attorney for Schively, had dramatically spoken of the "hidden hand" which was behind the prosecution. The "hidden hand" was pictured as a potent political influence which sought the destruction of Schively. In his reply the Attorney-General Lee said: "The 'hidden hand' which has been dramatically referred to by Mr. Israel is the awakened conscience of the people. It is the hand of destiny, of God Almighty, of justice itself. There is no political significance to the hand which directs the prosecution of this respondent save that the people of this great northwestern state have awakened to the realization of his offences. The 'hidden hand' is the people back there who are looking to see if you will give vitality to that instrument called the constitution, whether you will permit the judgment to go out from this state that you approve of graft, corruption and malfeasance in office, and whether a state of floor can go on the witness stand and say, 'I did it, and I don't know how much I took, and escape on a technicality. That is the meaning of the 'hidden hand,' and by your decision you will be making history in this state."

WERE NOT DESERTED.

Mother of Children Contents That Parents are Doing What They Can.

When the members of the City Council discussed the case of the Clarke children at the last meeting of the council it would appear from information given this office by Mrs. Clarke that she was not fully acquainted with the facts. According to Mrs. Clarke, her children were not deserted by their parents. Mr. Clarke, she intimates, contributes \$10 a week towards their support. Under these circumstances Mrs. Clarke says it cannot be said that the children are deserted.

Mrs. Clarke is in ill health, but she says she was doing her best for the children.

SEARCHING FOR MOTHER LODE OF SILVER

Rich Samples of Ore Have Been Received From Lac La Ronge.

Prince Albert, Sask., Sept. 1.—A party of seven prospectors and guides has arrived back here after six weeks spent in the Lac La Ronge and Churchill region. They brought back a quantity of silver, gold and copper ore that have created quite a sensation. The party consists of Cummings and his wife; Beard, Gillmore, Shiel, McKenzie and Bruneau. Ward, a well-known prospector, is the best prospector for his years on the continent, and who made many rich finds in the Cobalt camp, left the party last week, and on three weeks' provisions determined to locate the mother lode of silver. He sent back with the party samples of silver quartz that are almost identical with samples from Cobalt. Bruneau sent word that if three weeks' provisions would not be sufficient, he could subsist on moose meat and jack rabbits, as the quest was close. Those who knew Bruneau believe that he will "land the goods" and open up another Cobalt, as he was the man who discovered the Larder Lake field, and knows his business as few men do. The board of trade is making every effort to have H. C. Hamelin and E. L. Clements, who in company with parties at Lumsden, Sask., outfit Bruneau, to have some of the most recent finds exhibited at the Toronto exposition in connection with the \$20,000-to-the-ton gold quartz already sent down. A second package of specimens has already been expressed to the Saskatchewan exhibit at Toronto.

LONGSHOREMEN WILL FIGHT SHIPOWNERS

Members of Seattle Union Decide to Begin Legal Battle.

Seattle, Sept. 1.—"The longshoremen's union will now begin a legal warfare against the Shipowners' Association of Seattle. We have submitted to the courts a bill of complaint for a year, but intend to do so no longer. It is a fight for our bread and butter," C. Guynn, agent of the longshoremen's union, made the above statement in discussing the case of J. C. Hayden, superintendent of the Arlington Dock Co., who was fined \$100 by Judge Brown of the criminal court, on a charge of blacklisting. The complaint against Hayden was that he refused to allow the steamer Oscar to unload freight because John Wagner, a union longshoreman, had been hired to assist in the work.

The boycott against the union men was started a year ago. Guynn said that he is now awaiting orders from headquarters in Portland.

WINDSOR MYSTERY.

Windsor, Sept. 1.—The body of the man kicked and thrown into the river has been identified as Charles Orendorff, former father of Ridgeway. The father is a prosperous contractor there. John Holme of Milwaukee, a sailor, is being held by the police.

London, Sept. 1.—The Grand Trunk July statement shows that the gross receipts of the Grand Trunk proper increased \$41,100; working expenses increased \$4,600; Canada Atlantic net profit decreased \$5,400; Grand Trunk Western net profit increased \$2,900; Grand Haven net profit decreased \$4,400.

FOREST FIRE RAGING.

La Grande, Ore., Sept. 1.—Several ranch homes are threatened with destruction and great damage to property has been done by a forest fire four miles from Summerville.

The fire is supposed to have started in 180 acres of timber belonging to Mrs. Lucia Smith, who yesterday was rated as worth several thousand dollars, and who now is penniless.

SMASH RECORD OF LAST YEAR

BUILDING FIGURES ARE MOUNTING SKYWARDS

Nineteen Hundred and Nine Promises Fine Achievements in Development.

Further figures are now available showing the splendid record in building progress in Victoria for the eight months of the present year. Scarcely a month in 1909 but has shown a larger total than the corresponding month of last year. August shows a total aggregate value in building permits of \$141,040, compared with \$134,770 for the same month last year.

All previous records will undoubtedly be broken, as compared with the figures of the corresponding period a year ago. The values of buildings for which permits were issued are just \$11