

## SIBERIA IN BUTTER TRADE

### ITS CAPABILITIES COMPARED WITH CANADA

#### Interesting Facts Concerning Agricultural Production of Two Countries.

The enormous growth of exports, particularly butter and other dairy products, within the past few years, from Siberia along the line of the great Siberian railway immediately east and west of the Ural mountains, has attracted the attention of the commercial world. The district thus roughly outlined is in exact latitude of Edmonton, Alta. The inference then is what must be the possibilities of the Canadian west beyond Edmonton upon which as yet little definite valuation has been set. Experts have recently given the assurance that the country is in every way superior to that portion of Siberia which has produced such wonderful results, says the weekly report of the department of the interior, and the Kourgan and Omsk, referred to later, are both on the main line of the railway and at least 100 miles north of the latitude of Edmonton.

The Russian peasant, from Siberia, is beginning to supply the market of Great Britain with dairy produce. His advent upon the market has been comparatively recent, yet the statistics showing his progress with the department of the interior of the United Kingdom, in the Canadian west. The information is taken from a lengthy report by Mr. H. Cooke, special commissioner for the British board of trade in 1905, supplemented by later figures.

The recent exports of grain (rye, wheat, oats, millet, buckwheat, barley, maize, flour and oil seeds), from Siberia proper by rail is thus shown: 1905, 47,322,000 pounds; 1906, 28,719,000 pounds; of about 36 pounds.

Wheat is the principal representative of the Siberian grain trade, forming at least over 50 per cent of that conveyed by railway. Butter Making. The following concise account of the origin of the butter industry has been extracted from the British government report already referred to:

The butter making industry of Western Siberia is one of the first direct results of the construction of the railway, and from the point of view of the general well being of the peasant population, the most promising outcome of the changed conditions now prevailing. It is at present the main resource of the inhabitants of the entire region. The progress made has indeed been wonderful. Previous to 1880 no butter was produced in Siberia for export abroad. The first to engage in butter-making under modern methods was an English woman, married to a Russian, whose dairy farm at Chermala, Relichin, in the district of Tumen, since 1885, the only one in Siberia, and is still a well-known model of its kind. The initial difficulties encountered, she told me, were extremely depressing. No experienced hands were to be found, the peasants did not understand that cows had to be properly fed or attended to, the distances were enormous and communications were non-existent. Primitive while the people in general, with the exception of the few who could afford to order supplies by the then communications from Moscow, had but faint ideas as to the difference between cheese and butter, and how they were to be eaten. The first separator—the first in Siberia—was purchased in 1887 from Sweden. Common peasant cows, small and yielding little milk, were utilized at first, and the breed gradually improved by the introduction of Simmental cattle. The farm now has 180 head of its own rearing.

In 1893 Mr. Wolkoff, a Russian, opened near Kourgan the first dairy producing butter for export beyond the Urals. Some 400 pounds (14,400 pounds) were exported in 1894.

Fifteen years have passed since the establishment of the first dairy in Siberia, and butter making has become the staple industry of the country as regards international trade and home resource. Indeed the peasants believe that were it not for the dairy they would have perished in the recent hard times. In 1903 over 2,000 dairies were scattered through Western Siberia, exporting 2,185,000 pounds, or 78,964,720 pounds. The western export by rail since then has grown thus:

	Pounds.
1904	2,157,774
1905	1,937,989
1906	2,897,776
1907	3,413,641
1908	3,310,229

Almost all goes via Baltic ports. There was sent to the United Kingdom from Russia in:

	Cwt.	Value.
1906	617,248	\$2,974,835
1907	668,748	\$3,148,843

System of Collection. The region engaged in butter-making extends along the line of the railway from Obi, or Novo-Nikolaevsk to Kourgan, a distance of 1,100 miles or 173 miles. It now possesses a population of 25,000 to 35,000, and is the exporting point by rail for the rich Barnoul or Altai region, south of the line, the produce of which is conveyed to the railway by the river steamers of the Obi. Here the special butter train, running daily in summer, takes on its first ice-trucks, picking up others ready loaded at each butter transit centre along the line as far as Chelabinsk, whence the complete train of twenty-five trucks starts through Russia for the Baltic ports, where its freight is shipped to the markets of Copenhagen and Great Britain.

Barnoul, Omsk and Kourgan, are the most important centres of this trade. The first mentioned, with some 35,000 inhabitants, is a rich and prosperous looking town on the Obi. It does a busy trade in grain and butter and has some thirteen or fourteen butter export offices, mostly Danish or Russian, with two British, which ship their produce to the rail at Novo-Nikolaevsk.

Omsk, with a population variously estimated at from 50,000 to 80,000, the capital of the governorship of the Steppes and of the Akmolinsk territory, is a large village-like town, of rising influence from its position on the railway and on the Irish. It has fifteen offices engaged in the export of butter, the half of which are Danish, the rest Russian or German, with one British establishment.

Kourgan, a district town of the governorship of Tobolsk, with some 12,000 inhabitants, is a large straggling village in appearance, and has sprung into prominence since the construction of the railway, as the most important centre of the Siberian butter trade. It has seventeen export offices, including Danish, German, Russian and one British. 545,842 pounds (19,711,445 pounds), or 25 per cent. of the entire Siberian exports, were dispatched from this centre in 1902, and 510,073 pounds in 1903.

The Dairies. The first dairy for the manufacture of butter for export abroad was opened in 1883. By 1902 the number of Siberian dairies amounted to over 2,000. They are termed in Russian "zavodsk" or "works." They have, indeed, little in common with the ordinary conception of the word dairy or of its accompaniments and surroundings, as understood in western Europe. Turned up and hastily equipped in the first flush of the movement, both suitable and unsuitable tenements were adapted to the purpose, with a total lack of technical knowledge and experience on the part of the villagers, and it is only lately that the stress of competition, backed by the endeavors of the authorities and the special instructors, has begun to work some improvement in the sanitary conditions of production. The dairies in general are either the property of individual owners or of two or three combined, who buy milk from the peasants around, or else they are supplied by the entire village societies, both of which supply the milk from their own cows. The art of dairymaking is defined as "one created by several peasants who distribute the proceeds in proportion to the amount of milk provided."

A movement, encouraged by the authorities, has gradually established co-operative dairies, for villages or entire hamlets throughout. In the Kourgan region almost the entire production of butter is now in the hands of co-operative dairies. It would seem more than probable that the whole Siberian butter industry will eventually assume this village co-operative form of production.

Canada's Advantages. Turning, therefore, to Canada the inference must be apparent. If such developments have been achieved in Siberia, much more than should the resources of the Canadian Northwest, as yet scarcely realized, be productive of surprising results. That both districts are in the same latitude does not in itself ensure identical climatic conditions. Latitude, it was shown before, is a private committee of the House last year. The climate of the northern part of this committee, inquiring into the agricultural possibilities of the north, indicating conclusively that vegetables could be grown within a few hundred miles of the Arctic circle, that wheat has been harvested just short of latitude 62, averaging nearly 64 pounds to the bushel, and at Fort Vermilion was a flour mill, electrically equipped, turning out 35 barrels per day. Numerous other statements were presented to corroborate that there was a vast area of land suitable for cultivation. The winters may be colder, but the summers, shorter though they may be, from June 1 to August 29, have the same temperature as Ottawa. And as has been pitifully remarked "Things don't grow in winter." The mere fact of growing crops in the northern part of the province of 1,000 and more, indicates that some industry must be carried on to support them. As regards dairymaking there is no question that in the north are grasses of the greatest possible value for cattle grazing, far surpassing indeed those of the northwest.

It is possibilities rather than actualities which must be considered at this stage of western development. A bulletin by the statistics branch of the department of agriculture indicates that while the amount of dairy produce manufactured in Alberta is as yet a hardly appreciable fraction of the whole Canadian output, the tendency to increase is evident. In Alberta the production of butter, which in 1900 was 601,489 pounds, was in 1907 1,507,697 pounds, an increase of 906,208 pounds, or 151 per cent. The values were \$123,305 in 1900 and \$362,732 in 1907, a gain of \$239,427, or 194 per cent. Of cheese, 21,693 pounds of the value of \$3,102, was made in 1900; whilst in 1907 the production was 197,911 pounds, of the value of \$24,468. In Saskatchewan, of course, the industry is yet in earliest stages. In Alberta the number of factories increased from 18 to 1900, to 83 in 1907, and in Saskatchewan there has been an increase of two for the same period. About 1,800,000 people inhabit the province of Siberia from which 44,008,000 pounds of grain were exported in 1907. If any parallel can be drawn, certainly the industrial and prosperous citizens of the Canadian Northwest, under far happier conditions than the Russian peasant, in their increasing numbers should succeed to as great, if not greater, extent.

#### MINERS STRIKE.

Charleston, W. Va., May 25.—Eight thousand miners in the Kanawha coal district struck to-day. The strike was the result of differences over a wage agreement.

In Alberta the number of factories increased from 18 to 1900, to 83 in 1907, and in Saskatchewan there has been an increase of two for the same period. About 1,800,000 people inhabit the province of Siberia from which 44,008,000 pounds of grain were exported in 1907. If any parallel can be drawn, certainly the industrial and prosperous citizens of the Canadian Northwest, under far happier conditions than the Russian peasant, in their increasing numbers should succeed to as great, if not greater, extent.

Mr. Mason, of Victoria, here with his slop Irene. He will spend a week here, after which he will be joined by R. M. Stewart in a bear hunt on the mainland.

Edinburgh, Scotland, May 25.—America's hope of figuring in the British amateur golf championship series was shattered to-day with the defeat of T. G. Stevenson, of Boston, by J. B. Pease of England, by the good score of 3 up and 2 to play.

#### DIVINE SERVICE.

St. Andrew Society Marched to Church on Sunday Evening.

On Sunday evening the St. Andrew's society of this city in company with the newly organized body, the Flora MacDonald society attended divine worship at St. Andrew's Presbyterian church. The pipers' bands of the society headed the procession down Sir William Wallace Hall. There was a good attendance of the St. Andrew's society. The band looked excellent in their new uniform. Rev. Leslie Clay preached from Psalm 124.

After treating his subject very ably from different standpoints, the speaker addressed himself more particularly to the sons and daughters of Scotland before him, recounting briefly, yet forcibly, how through the centuries, their ancestors had always been ready to draw the sword in the support of truth and right, even though it led to martyrdom, and to a lonely hillside. The speaker, in closing made a stirring appeal, to the men of the present generation to be worthy of their noble forefathers.

#### CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATIONS.

(Special to the Times.)

Ottawa, May 25.—Some two hundred candidates are writing to-day in the civil service competitive examinations at various points in Canada for sixty vacancies in the civil division of 10 to 5 seconds, which is highly creditable for such a young runner. At the beginning of the season he was doing the distance in eleven seconds, but on Saturday he showed wonderful form and in a short time may be expected to make the best of them look to their laurels.

In the half mile George Dickson displayed good form and ran the distance in two minutes 13 seconds, a splendid achievement. He is only 17 years of age, and in the medium distances has remarkable speed.

In H. Beasley, a son of the manager of the E. & N., who has recently come to the city, the victors have secured a most promising athlete.

Records were broken in the 100 yards and 100 yards under 14. The old boys' 100 yards was beaten by 4-5 seconds. The 100 yards open record, the 220 yards open record, the 220 yards under 16 suffered by 1-2-5; the same distance under 14 was also beaten, and 12 year old boys put a new time up for 220.

The one-half mile time was lowered and the 10 year boys broke the 75 yards record. The relay record also suffered and other fast times were made. The full list is as follows, with comparisons of other years:

The following is the list of winners in the various events:

100 yards, any age—H. Beasley, Central school; 2, A. Clark, High school; 3, W. Sproule, University school. Time, 12 seconds. Previous times, 1906, 12-1-5; 1908, 11-4-5.

100 yards, under 12 years—1, R. Brewster, Central school; 2, A. Clark, High school; 3, W. Sproule, University school. Time, 12 seconds. Previous times, 1906, 12-1-5; 1908, 11-4-5.

100 yards, under 12 years—1, R. Brewster, Central school; 2, A. Clark, High school; 3, W. Sproule, University school. Time, 12 seconds. Previous times, 1906, 12-1-5; 1908, 11-4-5.

100 yards, old boys—1, B. Vailo; 2, C. Carrs; 3, Elbert. Time, 10 seconds flat. Previous times, 1906, 10-4-5 (Vailo).

220 yards, any age—H. Beasley, Central school; 2, Bowser, University school; 3, McQuigan, University school. Time, 24 3-5 seconds. Previous times, 1906, 24 1-5; 1907, 25 3-5.

220 yards, under 16 years—1, R. Brewster, Central school; 2, A. Clark, High school; 3, W. Sproule, University school; 4, W. Sproule, University school; 5, W. Sproule, University school. Time, 25 2-5 seconds flat. Previous times, 1906, 25 2-5 seconds; 1907, 26 2-5; 1908, 27 flat.

220 yards, under 16 years—1, R. Brewster, Central school; 2, Bowser, University school; 3, McQuigan, University school. Time, 24 3-5 seconds. Previous times, 1906, 24 1-5; 1907, 25 3-5.

220 yards, under 16 years—1, R. Brewster, Central school; 2, Bowser, University school; 3, McQuigan, University school. Time, 24 3-5 seconds. Previous times, 1906, 24 1-5; 1907, 25 3-5.

220 yards, under 16 years—1, R. Brewster, Central school; 2, Bowser, University school; 3, McQuigan, University school. Time, 24 3-5 seconds. Previous times, 1906, 24 1-5; 1907, 25 3-5.

220 yards, under 16 years—1, R. Brewster, Central school; 2, Bowser, University school; 3, McQuigan, University school. Time, 24 3-5 seconds. Previous times, 1906, 24 1-5; 1907, 25 3-5.

220 yards, under 16 years—1, R. Brewster, Central school; 2, Bowser, University school; 3, McQuigan, University school. Time, 24 3-5 seconds. Previous times, 1906, 24 1-5; 1907, 25 3-5.

220 yards, under 16 years—1, R. Brewster, Central school; 2, Bowser, University school; 3, McQuigan, University school. Time, 24 3-5 seconds. Previous times, 1906, 24 1-5; 1907, 25 3-5.

220 yards, under 16 years—1, R. Brewster, Central school; 2, Bowser, University school; 3, McQuigan, University school. Time, 24 3-5 seconds. Previous times, 1906, 24 1-5; 1907, 25 3-5.

220 yards, under 16 years—1, R. Brewster, Central school; 2, Bowser, University school; 3, McQuigan, University school. Time, 24 3-5 seconds. Previous times, 1906, 24 1-5; 1907, 25 3-5.

220 yards, under 16 years—1, R. Brewster, Central school; 2, Bowser, University school; 3, McQuigan, University school. Time, 24 3-5 seconds. Previous times, 1906, 24 1-5; 1907, 25 3-5.

220 yards, under 16 years—1, R. Brewster, Central school; 2, Bowser, University school; 3, McQuigan, University school. Time, 24 3-5 seconds. Previous times, 1906, 24 1-5; 1907, 25 3-5.

## SCHOOL SPORTS

### GRAND SUCCESS

GOOD RECORDS MADE BY YOUNG ATHLETES

Most Enjoyable Meet Ever Held in Connection With Events.

The school sports this year held on Saturday afternoon at Oak Bay were the most successful in the history of this annual gathering. The day was delightful, which allowed for a record attendance both of pupils and parents. The most of the trustees were present, lending their assistance in making the meet the signal success it promised to be. To add to the pleasure the track was in good condition and allowed fast time to be made. The time for two of the 100 yards dashes and the half mile were exceedingly good. Brook Vailo, who is acknowledged to be the crack sprinter turned out of the Victoria school, made the 100 yards in 10 seconds flat. This is one-fifth of a second faster than the British Columbia record for that distance. Also showed good form and his competitors did not have a look in against him.

Ray Brewster, another promising youth of not 16 years of age, also made the 100 yards in 10 seconds, a splendid achievement. He is only 17 years of age, and in the medium distances has remarkable speed.

In H. Beasley, a son of the manager of the E. & N., who has recently come to the city, the victors have secured a most promising athlete.

Records were broken in the 100 yards and 100 yards under 14. The old boys' 100 yards was beaten by 4-5 seconds. The 100 yards open record, the 220 yards open record, the 220 yards under 16 suffered by 1-2-5; the same distance under 14 was also beaten, and 12 year old boys put a new time up for 220.

The one-half mile time was lowered and the 10 year boys broke the 75 yards record. The relay record also suffered and other fast times were made. The full list is as follows, with comparisons of other years:

The following is the list of winners in the various events:

100 yards, any age—H. Beasley, Central school; 2, A. Clark, High school; 3, W. Sproule, University school. Time, 12 seconds. Previous times, 1906, 12-1-5; 1908, 11-4-5.

100 yards, under 12 years—1, R. Brewster, Central school; 2, A. Clark, High school; 3, W. Sproule, University school. Time, 12 seconds. Previous times, 1906, 12-1-5; 1908, 11-4-5.

100 yards, old boys—1, B. Vailo; 2, C. Carrs; 3, Elbert. Time, 10 seconds flat. Previous times, 1906, 10-4-5 (Vailo).

220 yards, any age—H. Beasley, Central school; 2, Bowser, University school; 3, McQuigan, University school. Time, 24 3-5 seconds. Previous times, 1906, 24 1-5; 1907, 25 3-5.

220 yards, under 16 years—1, R. Brewster, Central school; 2, A. Clark, High school; 3, W. Sproule, University school; 4, W. Sproule, University school; 5, W. Sproule, University school. Time, 25 2-5 seconds flat. Previous times, 1906, 25 2-5 seconds; 1907, 26 2-5; 1908, 27 flat.

220 yards, under 16 years—1, R. Brewster, Central school; 2, Bowser, University school; 3, McQuigan, University school. Time, 24 3-5 seconds. Previous times, 1906, 24 1-5; 1907, 25 3-5.

220 yards, under 16 years—1, R. Brewster, Central school; 2, Bowser, University school; 3, McQuigan, University school. Time, 24 3-5 seconds. Previous times, 1906, 24 1-5; 1907, 25 3-5.

220 yards, under 16 years—1, R. Brewster, Central school; 2, Bowser, University school; 3, McQuigan, University school. Time, 24 3-5 seconds. Previous times, 1906, 24 1-5; 1907, 25 3-5.

220 yards, under 16 years—1, R. Brewster, Central school; 2, Bowser, University school; 3, McQuigan, University school. Time, 24 3-5 seconds. Previous times, 1906, 24 1-5; 1907, 25 3-5.

220 yards, under 16 years—1, R. Brewster, Central school; 2, Bowser, University school; 3, McQuigan, University school. Time, 24 3-5 seconds. Previous times, 1906, 24 1-5; 1907, 25 3-5.

220 yards, under 16 years—1, R. Brewster, Central school; 2, Bowser, University school; 3, McQuigan, University school. Time, 24 3-5 seconds. Previous times, 1906, 24 1-5; 1907, 25 3-5.

220 yards, under 16 years—1, R. Brewster, Central school; 2, Bowser, University school; 3, McQuigan, University school. Time, 24 3-5 seconds. Previous times, 1906, 24 1-5; 1907, 25 3-5.

220 yards, under 16 years—1, R. Brewster, Central school; 2, Bowser, University school; 3, McQuigan, University school. Time, 24 3-5 seconds. Previous times, 1906, 24 1-5; 1907, 25 3-5.

220 yards, under 16 years—1, R. Brewster, Central school; 2, Bowser, University school; 3, McQuigan, University school. Time, 24 3-5 seconds. Previous times, 1906, 24 1-5; 1907, 25 3-5.

220 yards, under 16 years—1, R. Brewster, Central school; 2, Bowser, University school; 3, McQuigan, University school. Time, 24 3-5 seconds. Previous times, 1906, 24 1-5; 1907, 25 3-5.

220 yards, under 16 years—1, R. Brewster, Central school; 2, Bowser, University school; 3, McQuigan, University school. Time, 24 3-5 seconds. Previous times, 1906, 24 1-5; 1907, 25 3-5.

220 yards, under 16 years—1, R. Brewster, Central school; 2, Bowser, University school; 3, McQuigan, University school. Time, 24 3-5 seconds. Previous times, 1906, 24 1-5; 1907, 25 3-5.

220 yards, under 16 years—1, R. Brewster, Central school; 2, Bowser, University school; 3, McQuigan, University school. Time, 24 3-5 seconds. Previous times, 1906, 24 1-5; 1907, 25 3-5.

220 yards, under 16 years—1, R. Brewster, Central school; 2, Bowser, University school; 3, McQuigan, University school. Time, 24 3-5 seconds. Previous times, 1906, 24 1-5; 1907, 25 3-5.

220 yards, under 16 years—1, R. Brewster, Central school; 2, Bowser, University school; 3, McQuigan, University school. Time, 24 3-5 seconds. Previous times, 1906, 24 1-5; 1907, 25 3-5.

Central school; 2, Heyland, South Park; 3, Rickison, Kingston street. Time, 31 seconds. Previous times, 1906, 36; 1907, 31-2; 1908, 32.

Half mile, any age—1, G. Dutton, Central school; 2, Bell Irving, University school; 3, W. Sproule, Central school. Time, 12 1-2. Previous times, 1906, 2-2; 1907, 2-3 3-5; 1908, 2-21 2-5.

440 yards, old boys—1, B. Vailo; 2, Carrs. Time, 1-01 2-5. Previous time, 55 2-5.

440 yards, under 16 years—1, B. Vailo, South Park; 2, McKee, Central; 3, Campbell, Central. Time, 1-02 3-5; 1906, 58 2-5; 1907, 1-01 4-5; 1908, 1-02 3-5.

75 yards, boys under 10 years—1, Hay, Central; 2, Sloan, Kingston Street; 3, Burton, Victoria West. Time, 10 3-5 seconds. Previous times, 1906, 10 4-5; 1907, 11 1-5; 1908, 11 1-5.

75 yards, under 8 years—1, E. Cruise, North Ward; 2, Watson, Kingston Street; 3, H. Bloom, Victoria West. Time, 11 4-5 seconds. Previous times, 1906, 11 3-5; 1907, 11 4-5; 1908, 12 seconds.

150 yards, under 10 years—1, Hay, Central; 2, Bryne, Corrig college; 3, Burton, Kingston Street. Time, 22 3-5 seconds. Previous times, 1906, 21 4-5; 1907, 21 2-5; 1908, 23.

Relay race, half mile—1, High school, Clark, Brown, Day and Sackmilt; 2, Central school. Time, 1 min., 51 sec. Previous times, 1906, 1-53 3-5; 1907, 1-53 1-5; 1908, 1-52.

High jump, 14 years—1, J. Cameron, Central; 2, MacDonald, Central; 3, Drury, South Park. Height, 4 feet 11 inches. Previous records, 1906, 4 feet 11 inches; 1907, 4 feet 11 inches; 1908, 4 feet 9 inches.

High jump, open—1, 1, McQuigan, University; 2, G. Dickson, Central; 3, Bowser, University. Height, 4 feet 11 inches.

High jump, 16 years—1, W. Day; 2, J. Siddell. Height, 4 feet 8 inches.

Broad jump, under 14—1, E. Drury, South Park; 2, Litchfield, Central; 3, W. Hicks, North Ward.

Broad jump, under 16—1, A. Clarke, High school; 2, R. Brewster, Central; 3, L. Lane, North Ward.

Broad jump, open—1, Harry Beasley, Central; 2, A. Clarke, High school; 3, R. McCallum, North Ward.

The best three events were competed for a few days before the other sports.

TACOMA ENTERTAINS JAPANESE CRUISERS

Lengthy Programme Has Been Prepared—Athletic Carnival.

(Times Leased Wire.)

Tacoma, Wash., May 25.—This was a busy day for the sailors of the Japanese and American warships now in port, and it will be topped off to-night with a brilliant reception to the fleet officers in the Tacoma hotel. The reception is to be given by the citizens, a general invitation being extended, and it is expected that several thousand persons will take occasion during the evening to greet the visitors.

Admiral Hight, following his arrival yesterday, approved all the plans for the week's entertainment, and the Japanese have entered heartily into the arrangements. One Hundred and sixty-five Japanese sailors, under the leadership of the Asa no bute of 28 pieces, will participate in the big parade Saturday.

To-day the Japanese cadets were taken for automobile rides about the city. This afternoon aquatic sports are being held on the bay. All the sailors are taking great interest in the events, and keen rivalry is in evidence. Prizes are being given to the winners.

Two hundred Japanese and a thousand sailors will have shore leave to-night to attend the great athletic carnival arranged for at the armory. Both Japanese and American contests will be held. In the speed contests the Japanese are expected to compete with the Americans, and in the boxing and wrestling contests each nationality will exhibit its particular style.

STEAMER QUEEN CITY ASHORE AT SCOW BAY

Twenty-four Hours Spent on Mud at Logging Camp.

The officers and crew of the steamer Queen City had made all arrangements to be in Victoria for the celebration, but the fates decreed that they should be too late for everything except the fireworks. The steamer paid her regular visit to Rivers Inlet and was away ahead of schedule time but at the last shelling place she ran ashore and remained on the mud for 24 hours, while the 100 hundred passengers and especially the crew fumed at the delay which kept them away from the holiday sports.

Scow Bay is a logging camp a short distance north of Texada Island, but on the mainland. Over three hundred men are employed there, and a short logging railway extends inland seven miles, connecting with some lakes. Around the lakes is a splendid summer country and this makes Scow Bay an important place. Unfortunately there is no wharf at the place and the boats have to tie up at a raft. This the Queen City essayed to do but the raft had drifted away from its correct position and the result was the steamer went ashore.