

The Chronicle

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R. WILSON-SMITH,
Proprietor.

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The Alaska Boundary Treaty.

The preliminary arrangements for submitting the Alaska boundary question to a body of six Commissioners have been concluded. The duties and qualifications of the members of this Commission are thus stated in the treaty:

"A tribunal shall be immediately appointed to consider and decide the questions set forth in Article IV. of this convention. The tribunal shall consist of six imperial jurists of repute, who shall consider judiciously the questions submitted to them, each of whom shall first subscribe an oath that he will impartially consider the arguments and evidence presented to the tribunal, and will decide thereupon according to his true judgment."

The word "judiciously" seems to us to need changing into "judicially." The American members will be Secretary Root, Senator Lodge and Senator Turner, two of whom have publicly declared that Canada has no case worth considering, and the third, by his very official position, is merely a representative of the American claim. To speak of the three United States Commissioners as "arbitrators" is to wholly ignore what the word arbitration means. Men on a jury panel, who have already given a verdict on a case, are not allowed to sit as jurors. The Alaska Boundary Commission is fatally discredited before it commences its labours.

Unpaid Receipts not Valid.

For the double purpose of notifying policyholders of the expiration of policies and of securing renewals of the risks, it is a general custom of insurance companies to send receipts for premiums before they are due. A general belief is entertained that a receipt thus sent, although it was handed over before the payment was made which it acknowledges, keeps

a policy alive just as surely as though payment had been actually made. A decision by Judge Street, in a Toronto Court, shows this idea to be unfounded. Mr. Doherty carried two policies in the Millers' & Manufacturers'. They sent him receipts as usual, the rate having been raised. While negotiations were going on to get a lower rate a fire occurred. Then the insured sent a cheque to cover the receipts and claimed the amount of the loss by fire. The companies refused payment, on the ground that the policies had been allowed to lapse by delay in paying the premium. This plea was upheld by the Court who dismissed the plaintiff's action. We fear there are scores of thousands of dollars of insurance in jeopardy owing to unpaid receipts being held after policies have expired.

"Too much Hockey," Says an Expert.

The President of the Montreal Hockey Club said a few days ago: "We have had too much hockey. Although men may be called of iron, they are not made of iron and tired nature will give way. When it is remembered that the Montreal team has played thirteen hard games since the 3rd of January, and that nearly every man has been ill at some time or another during the season, I think they died game last night."

The "last night" referred to was the time when the Club team was defeated. Some youths and young men have serious cause for agreeing with the President about "too much hockey," though we should prefer the phrase being, "too much violence, too much mere brute force, too much effort to injure opponents." In the present season several serious casualties are known to us to have occurred, such as a blow on the head, which may result in the victim becoming insane; a blow on the leg by which it was broken; a blow on the mouth by which teeth were