

British Columbia.

VENUS.

The Mars correspondent of the News writes: We notice quite a lively interest in things political. The Liberals are well organized, with every prospect of a majority here, notwithstanding the interest of our members in seed grain distribution. We are afraid it has come too late.

For seven days the proprietors of the Black Horse mineral claim, back of the Black Horse ranch, have had a number of engaged strippers at work, which is of greater value than it was at first thought to be.

Mr. A. Postill returned last week from a prospecting trip through Nicola county, during which he located several mineral claims, and brought back with him some specimens of fine looking rock.

A meeting was held at Kelowna on Saturday afternoon for the purpose of converting the Shippers' Union into a joint stock company, being considered the desirable to make this change in the organization. The attendance was large and after a thorough discussion of the question, in which many of the representative farmers of the Mission valley took part, it was decided to incorporate.

A mineral claim was staked out on the mountain side of the Nicola valley, and a couple of weeks ago Mr. J. T. McKinnon, who has since been doing some work on it. On Monday last, the fifteen days allowed by law to record it expired, and Mr. McKinnon failed to make his entry on time. It was "jumped" by J. J. Hall and is now owned by the name of the L. X. Co.

Some of the best looking quartz has been brought into town from some of the best looking quartz in the Nicola valley claim on the west side of Okanagan lake, near Camp Hewitt.

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eral wagons laden with vegetables have arrived within the past few days. Cabbages and onions sell now at four cents a pound, while potatoes fetch from 2 1/2 to 3 cents. No mean profits there, but why should they be reaped by outsiders? That's the rub.

A certain individual, whose name is not yet ascertained, has struck upon a happy idea for making money without undue exertion. Needless to say he is a Yankee by birth. His modus operandi is to stop teamsters coming in from the other side, and representing himself as an inspector of horses for the British Columbia government, demand from each a sum, generally \$2, as an examination fee.

A bold attempt was made by the prisoners in Midway jail to escape on Tuesday last. Three prisoners, Westcott, Thompson and Breeden, broke out and escaped across the boundary, but were brought back by Constable Deans.

Two freight trains collided on Saturday night near Spuzzum. But little damage was done to the rolling stock, and fortunately no one was hurt. Rev. H. G. F. Clinton, rector of St. James', intimated that he would resign the rectory of the parish, such resignation to take effect on the 31st of July next.

Mr. F. Schofield, who has been appointed returning officer for this district, goes by the Danube to Port Neville. He will make two more trips to Port Neville and three clear to Alaska.

The Dominion Fish Company will launch a new fishing steamer which has been under course of construction for the last two or three months. She measures 35 feet over all, with nine feet beam, and will be fitted with engines. She will be able to carry from five to ten tons of fish and will be worked chiefly on the halibut and cod grounds up north for the company's local trade.

The first shot in the district of Burrard in the Dominion general election was fired on Saturday evening, when the opposition committee rooms on Carleton street were thrown open. The meeting was thoroughly informal, but notwithstanding, shortly after 8 o'clock a large number had assembled, and when the proceedings opened the speaker's room was filled to the doors, many chairs being used for seats.

While only a committee meeting, the utmost enthusiasm was shown, and the speeches made were punctuated by applause and marks of approbation.

Wholesale liquor licenses are to be increased to \$150, and it will be optional with a wholesale dealer whether he takes out a shop license. It is suggested that shop licenses permitting the sale of liquor in small quantities be increased from \$100 to \$300.

Hotels in Chilliwack, calling themselves clubs, have been selling liquor to so-called members and conducting card games. In an effort to close these so-called clubs complaints have been laid on Saturday evening, when the Queen's hotel, in charge with keeping a gaming house and fined \$25.

The coroner's jury have returned a verdict of "drowned" in the case of Cheam Joe, whose body was sent last week to a long search by the provincial police. The government had offered a reward of \$100 for the finding of the body, as murder was suspected. The coroner's jury have decided otherwise.

The spring salmon run is impeded. A carload of fresh fish was sent last week by the Texas Lake Ice Company on Saturday.

The lowest tender for the new market building was that of H. J. Williams, \$3005, and the contract was awarded him. The plans have been somewhat modified, but not accounting for the contract price not being as high as some had anticipated. Geo. Turnbull has been appointed inspector, and the work is to be commenced immediately, and completed by July 15.

A number of the leading farmers in the district, from Sea Island to Langley, have organized a corporation known as the Delta Horse Breeders' Association, for the purpose of importing thoroughbred animals with which to improve the strain of their local stock. As a starter, they have purchased an imported coach stallion, "Karbott," bred by the French government, for which they paid \$2000. It is not the intention of the association, however, to confine itself to the improvement of horseflesh, but they will also import first class bulls, etc., from time to time.

NANAIMO. Nanaimo, May 6.—M. J. Haggart has definitely decided to contest this constituency in spite of the convention to be held here on Friday. The Conservative party here held a lengthy meeting on Monday night to consider what steps are to be taken. A number of them are endeavoring to get Mr. Haslam to stand, believing that he can defeat Mr. Haggart and also the Liberal candidate, Mr. W. W. B. McInnes. There is a great deal of jealousy over Mr. Haggart's decision, as the clique think they ought first to be considered.

At the spring assizes held before Mr. Justice Drake yesterday Anna Bello pleaded guilty to the charge of concealment of the birth of her infant child. The grand jury returned no bill against Drabble, for theft, and the prisoner was discharged. Graham, the confessed accomplice in the Wellington dynamite outrage, was also discharged as it was found that there was no truth in it. In the case of Regina v. Keetloosh, the prisoner pleaded guilty to unlawful wounding. The grand jury returned a true bill against J. P. Planta in the case of the Blakeway estate and no bill in the Hartley case. The case will be put before the petit jury to-day.

The council on Monday night sustained the action of Mayor Davison in dismissing Constable Thompson.

The ladies of St. Alban's held a very successful bazaar last evening, followed by a programme of instrumental and vocal music, interspersed by refreshments of all kinds.

NANAIMO, May 5.—The Conservatives of this district have called a convention to be held in this city on Friday, May 15th, when Mr. Haslam will again be a candidate for re-election. The party perceive the chances are getting desperate, but they would have followed their old selfish methods of nominating their candidate from this city. They appear somewhat piqued over the little editorial in Sunday's Colonist enlarging Mr. J. Haggart, and claim it as premature.

The Conservative clique here are trying to ignore the fact that the seat will be contested by a Liberal candidate, and they will find to their disappointment that he is no mean opponent.

Langley & Co., of Victoria have taken possession of A. Patten's store at Wellington under a chattel mortgage.

The spring assizes opened here this morning. The docket is as follows: Regina v. G. B. Drake, theft; Regina v. Ballo, unlawful concealment of birth; Regina v. Kaatloosh, attempted murder.

The writ for the election in this constituency was received by Marshall Bray yesterday.

C. H. B. Potts made application before Judge Harrison yesterday for the dissolution of the Citizens' Building Society of Nanaimo. The hearing is set for next Monday.

NANAIMO, May 6.—Constitution has been caused in the local Tory camp by Mr. J. Haggart ignoring the proposed convention called for the 15th. This little scheme to sidestep Mr. Haggart in favor of Mr. Haslam has been cleverly foiled by Mr. Haggart issuing an address to the electors, and definitely announcing himself as the Conservative candidate. In the meantime, Mr. McInnes and his supporters have taken every advantage of the dissension in the Tory camp. The opinion is growing that the main fight will be between McInnes and Haggart, whether Mr. Haslam runs or not.

The assizes are over, and one happy feature about it is that the case of Mr. J. P. Planta is disposed of. Mr. Young, for the crown, entered a nolle prosequi on all charges except in violation of the statutes and explained that in all the cases that had been investigated the charges of misappropriation had been groundless. The judge fined him \$75, and now he is free.

Justice Harrison has rendered judgment for the defendant in the case of Robert William Phillip Parsons vs. Coral Novello Westwood.

The amateur opera company have handed over the sum of \$150 to the hospital, being the sum of money from the rental of the Chimes of Normandy, this being the net proceeds.

METCHOSIN. Metchosin, May 5.—Walter Langley, from up country, is visiting friends in Metchosin.

Mrs. Chas. Doering, who has been visiting friends here, has just gone home to Vancouver.

A most eloquent and polished discourse was delivered by Mr. Ellison last Sunday on the subject of "Christianity, or the religion of love, as he called it, which he endeavored to make clear, may become the conception of his audience.

Dr. McNaughton, James William Head, died very suddenly yesterday of heart trouble. His death was a great shock to his friends, for he was to all appearance a healthy man, and he was of a warm and genial disposition.

blow are down from the Big Hole claim on Gold Stream. They have been in an enormous piece of work, having now 800 feet of tunnel, 20 feet wide at the mouth, and averaging 12 feet in width throughout. They put this all in by hand, using whip saws and round timbers.

A site has been chosen for a bridge to cross the Littlelawet river, which is believed to give access to the North Fork camp. On this camp there are several properties on which work to the extent of \$1,800 has been done, and three carry crown grants. All that has held it back was access to railroad.

Mr. McCallum, of the Round Hill claim, in Littlelawet, will now get out 100 tons of ore.

Four claims have been located at Arrowhead already.

Three claims have been located by Glendenning and partner between Pingston and Boxall Creeks, on the west shore of Arrow Lake.

A rich lead, two feet wide, of gold ore has been located by Charles Bulford on Fish Creek. It will be worked this year.

KAMLOOPS. The inland Sentinel.

The funeral of the late Mrs. G. F. Pownall, whose death occurred on Friday last, took place yesterday at 2 p. m. The Rev. E. P. Flewelling conducted the funeral ceremonies.

The funeral of the late Mrs. J. J. Russell's place claim on Tranquille creek as now completed, and on Thursday the water will be turned on for a three days' trial of the gold producing capabilities of the gravel. The first wash-up will be made on Sunday.

Mr. R. Marpole has bonded the Osbergy group of mines in the Sloan for \$30,000. He has also taken an option on the Highland, Chief and Swiss.

These two prospects are on an unnamed creek about seven miles from the Arm of Kootenay Lake, and about sixteen miles from Sloan Lake. The ledge matter is 18 to 20 inches, and assays showed 26 ounces in free milling gold, with about two ounces of silver. The bond is for \$30,000, \$400 in cash, \$2,800 on the 15th of July, \$10,000 October 1st, and the balance in a year.

On Friday last a collision occurred between a freight train and a work train on the C. P. R. on the grade four miles west of Spuzzum. No one was injured, but there was considerable injury to rolling stock. The accident was caused by careless flagging on the part of the brakeman on the work train. The work train had been stopped on a curve and the brakeman was sent forward with a flag. He saw the freight train coming up the grade, but the work train had also started, and he supposed it had gone back to Spuzzum. Instead of that it came at a rapid rate, and the collision resulted. The eastern bound express train was delayed about 12 hours by the wreck, arriving at Kamloops about noon next day.

On Thursday last Mr. David Strachan, of North Hill, reported to the police the theft from him of a pocket book containing a number of valuable papers including a certificate of deposit for \$300, besides some \$60 in cash. Percy Thompson, who disappeared suddenly, is suspected of the theft, and also of having stolen a horse which disappeared about the same time.

PRINCETON. The inland Sentinel.

Everything in the way of mining is progressing fairly here. The Anglo-American is working with about 25 men on the ground.

The John Bull hydraulic claim has already done considerable hydraulic and will soon be ready for a wash-up. About ten men are employed on this claim.

Mr. Waterman arrived in last week and will immediately commence hydraulic mining on his new hydraulic claim on Friday creek, situated about four miles from the Similkameen from the Anglo-American.

Mr. Stevenson is progressing well with his fluming and expects to be ready in May to turn on the water at the Granite Creek hydraulic claim. There are at present at work on this claim about 55 men and everybody who knows this company's ground anticipates great results from the wash-up.

Mr. Warren, formerly city engineer of Vancouver, has also arrived in to operate the Golden Gate claim at Granite Creek.

The work on these claims has already made quite a stir in here and if the wash-ups prove anything like as good as what the ground prospecting, the profits accruing will be sure to cause many other good claims to be opened up.

QUEENELLE FORKS. Queenelle Forks, May 1.—During the last two or three weeks the weather has been fairly good, although the thermometer has run down occasionally to 18 or 20 degrees of frost at night, it is likely to be very high. A considerable number of men are finding their way in here seeking work, but it is pleasing to note that there are not so many of the "broke dead beats" as last year. It is feared that the large importation of Californian labor will disconcert many who had been given to understand when last season closed that they would likely be required again.

The Victoria Consolidated Hydraulic Mining Company are busy at Keithley Point, and it is expected that the "grant" will be operating on the gravel banks before the end of this week. Mr. Brigham, the superintendent, and Cashier Flowerman are apparently fully in harness for the season. They are getting supplies packed in and are evidently preparing to make the best of things.

The daily thundering cannonading, in blasting at the Cariboo Company's ground broken the activity which has been there. Mr. Hobson and his staff together with his Californian employees are likely to make things hum this year. They have already two monitors at work plying.

The Ovenselle Forks Canal and Hydraulic Mining Co. have made an early start in their claim on Spanish Creek building quarters for men and tunneling. It may be remembered that there was some little litigation in connection

with the ground last year which has happily been settled without going into court. The jumpers having fled abandoned the government bridge, which is situated at the junction of Spanish creek and North Fork of Queenelle river, the company hold three others on the left bank of the North Fork, two a little below the government bridge, and one at the famed Murderer's Gulch. They have also one claim at Half Mile creek on the opposite side of the South Fork to the Cariboo Company's ground.

Judging from what we can term this company's holdings must indicate prospectively a very extensive undertaking. Considerable money was spent last year in somewhat elaborate surveys for their ditch or canal, designed to bring a large volume of water from Cariboo Lake, the only source whence practically an endless supply can be drawn at all seasons of the year.

Sam Prior and party on the hill top are doing well. A well supplied bag of damper brought in a few days ago.

Donald Campbell, an old hand, has gone up to the Black Bear Creek Mining Company's property to turn the water on for ground sluicing and a force of men will join him shortly.

Some disappointment was witnessed when the stage arrived last night without some of our coast celebrities who are expected to fulfil partial promises made last year with regard to capital here. It is evidently much easier to say as a capitalist than to lay out the actual dollars, and is misleading to small and respectable miners. Enquiry was also made for one of the engineers who spent some time last year and reported that he had made \$30,000 up to the end of the year, and that he will be able to float or accomplish anything this year, even to sluicing and hydraulic mining without water, possible the X rays or some feature less understandable to ordinary mortals, may fill his bill.

Mr. Rae's hotel is a busy place just now, lots coming and going, and though extensions have been made since last year the accommodation is too small.

Our government agent and comable are away and their genial presence is much missed, though law and order seem to be just as well observed as when they are at home. So much for the good conduct of the miners.

NICOLA. Inland Sentinel.

The farmers have the season's crop about all in, but owing to the unusual cold weather there is not much growth yet compared with what we have experienced in former years.

The Triangle Cattle Company and the Nicola Lake Cattle Company have each made some fine shipments this spring, the cattle having issued from their winter quarters in splendid condition.

Somewhat excitement has been created in the neighborhood of P. T. creek where it is reported several claims have been staked off and registered and rich deposits of the yellow metal are said to be only awaiting development.

On the farm of Mr. Greenlee, near Douglas Lake, Mr. Ward, one of the employees, was kicked by a horse in the stomach, and died about thirty-six hours afterwards.

ROSSLAND. Rossland Prospector.

The business of the postoffice here is constantly increasing until now it dispatches over one thousand letters a day. On Saturday last it topped the record with 1500.

Tracklaying on the T. & R. R. is being done at a rapid rate. Graders are on various portions of the road, and by the end of the week the engines will be working within sight of the city. It is stated that the C. P. R. will lay out to Trail and lay another third rail on this line so that their cars can be hauled by the narrow gauge engines to Rossland.

The customs receipts at Rossland for April amounted to \$6164.40 for Trail, \$3300, and Waneta \$708.20. This month's receipts are the highest yet for Rossland.

D. McGillivray, contractor, of Vancouver, was in town this week, and with him sold a half interest in the C. & C., adjoining the Iron horse, to J. H. O'Leary, for \$4680.

Mr. Morris has completed the survey and laid out the grade for the pipe and flume required to supply the Le Roi mine. The water dam will be constructed on Big Sheep Creek, near the High Ore claim, about two miles from Le Roi, and from there the water will be conveyed in a flume to a point near the mine, where a reservoir will be constructed.

The North Star, on Columbia mountain, changed hands on Wednesday, when T. Stock, O. Jeddness and J. Kelly sold to Cowper-Coles & Johnson, who are to be in charge of the property. The last payment of which is to be made on May 15th. This claim was located by Kelly in December, 1894, and last summer was under bond to A. Jeanneret, J. Ashton, A. Hiseock and R. Rust for \$20,000. These parties did about \$4500 worth of work and shipped a carload of ore to Tacoma, which yielded \$1140 to the ton. There are two veins on the claim, one five feet, and the other eight feet, assaying all the way from a trace of gold to \$125 to the ton. About four hundred tons of ore are on the dump.

The air compressor for the Josie was brought up from Trail this week.

One steam drill was started to work on the Georgia last Tuesday, and another will be started shortly.

The exports of ore from Trail Creek mines for April were as follows: Le Roi, 142 tons, value \$5064; War Eagle, 263 tons, value \$14,870.

A contract has been let to Heniker & Wilson to sink a shaft 35 feet on the Standard ground, composed of the Standard, the Dawn and the Duke.

The receipts of the mining recorder's office for April amounted to upwards of \$4200, with some yet to be received for poll tax. These receipts are the highest of any month since the office was established.

A strike of higher grade ore than has previously been found, is reported on the Deadwood, running from \$26 to \$40, and the other side of the vein, a high grade ore which will probably erect a smelter on the ground.

Word was brought in on Wednesday of a strike of very rich free-milling gold quartz on the east shore of Arrow lake,

about 12 miles above Robson. Quite a number from Nelson are said to have gone into this new field to prospect.

A strike of free-milling ore was made on the Granite No. 2 of such value as will probably cause a lookout to be kept for such ores. While F. J. Sullivan was doing assessment on that claim, quartz was found which upon assay was shown to contain from \$30 to \$300 in gold. The vein runs in a northerly direction across the claim and appears between a porphyry and granite contact, the same as is observable on the Deadwood. Enough work has not been done to show the width of the vein, but the quartz has been found strewn along the ground for about three hundred feet. The Granite No. 2 was located on April 8, 1895, by F. J. Sullivan, but W. H. Harris, who was working for him, made the discovery.

H. Bostock, who is candidate for the Commons on the Liberal side, was in Rossland last week, and in addition to attending to political matters, went out on Saturday to the Little Pittsburg group, of which he is owner, along with G. P. Kelly, who has been foreman for him since he began the development of that property. The work consists of 40 feet of tunnel on Silver Star, and 40 feet on the Little Pittsburg, and 35 feet on the Little Wood, all on Lookout Mountain. The surface showing is very wide on these claims. On the Silver Star the tunnel follows the vein, and for all the way the vein is shown, though the true vein runs from one to four feet in width, and the end of the tunnel is about 60 feet from the surface.

Mr. Bostock is known to have the means and the persistence to develop the property with a view to future profitable working, rather than to make early shipments of ore, and the work has been done in a systematic manner that reflects credit on Mr. Kelly's ability.

The Nickel Plate has now 300 tons of ore on the dump which will probably average \$60 per ton, giving a total of \$18,000. An upraise is now being made from the end of the east drift and from this some very good ore is being taken.

The thirty-drift compressor for the Trail Mineral Company has been loaded on the cars at Chicago and will be due in Rossland about June 1. The plant has been in use on the Chicago drainage canal and their genial presence is much missed, though law and order seem to be just as well observed as when they are at home. So much for the good conduct of the miners.

The north crosscut of the Centre Star which encountered such a fine body of ore last week, is being pushed into the ledge about 40 feet ahead. No drifting for the present will be done on the vein crosscut. It is for the present wide and the ore runs high in copper, with a very good gold value.

Very fine ore continues to be taken from the Iron Mask. It is the highest grade ore in the camp and there is plenty of it.

The Le Roi is getting out some very high grade ore from the lower levels. An average of \$80 is claimed for all that is being taken out.

Work has been begun on the Fool Hen, which adjoins the townsite on the west and lies just north of the Phoenix. The property is under bond to the Barnard syndicate. Two men are driving an open cut into the ledge and they have uncovered a big showing of mineral, which has been matted.

A company has been formed in Spokane to take over the Commander, with the original owners and W. J. Harris and Frank Watson as directors. The property will be capitalized for \$500,000. The Commander lies directly east of Rossland and is about a mile from town. It has been opened by a 50-foot shaft which shows from 3 to 5 feet of high grade copper ore.

John A. Finch reports on the Jumbo: "We have driven our tunnel 110 feet diagonally across the ledge without finding our hanging wall. In driving this distance we have crossed between 50 and 60 feet of ore as nearly as we can determine. About 25 feet of this ore will average from \$25 to \$30 in gold per ton. The balance is not so high grade. We have quit crosscutting now and will drive straight on our pay ore chute for the shaft to make a connection through to the surface."

The Iron Horse is as good as sold. A Spokane syndicate holds an option on it for \$25,000, which is sure to be taken up, as several parties are ready to take the option off its hands at a large premium. The price of the Iron Horse is the same as the Monte Christo, \$25,000 cash.

J. H. Sussman, mining expert for the C. P. R., has arrived at Rossland. The object of his visit is in connection with the proposed C. P. R. smelter which we have stated was likely to be built at Robson. He is the expert who reported in favor of the erection of a smelter at Nakusp or Robson two years ago while in the employ of the Kansas City Smelting and Refining company.

D. C. Corbin, president of the Spokane Electric & Waterworks company, is in Northport on Wednesday making arrangements for the early commencement of work on the Columbia and Red Mountain railroad. Chief Engineer Roberts insists he will have the line completed into Rossland in 90 days, but Mr. Corbin thinks it will take four months to complete the work. The daily through train between Spokane and Nelson will be put on about the middle of May.

George Allan Kirk, of Victoria, on Monday, purchased from Edward N. Bonche and F. A. Williamson their two-thirds interest in the Palo Alto for \$10,000 cash. The other third of the Palo Alto is owned by W. G. Egan and Ben C. Nicholls, of Spokane, and it is presumed that they will consolidate with Mr. Kirk and incorporate a company to work the mine.

On Saturday, Charles Sweeney, of the Last Chance mine at Wardens (Idaho), purchased the Red Mountain for \$16,000, practically all cash. The bill of sale has been placed in escrow, \$4,000 having been already paid and the balance will be paid within 30 days.

First Wheelman—It was lucky for that man that he had a match when his lantern went out.

Second Wheelman—Why, my dear fellow, that was a man. It had been he wouldn't have scratched the match on the pavement that way.

ROYAL Baking Powder. Highest of all in leavening strength.—U. S. Government Report.

with the ground last year which has happily been settled without going into court. The jumpers having fled abandoned