

The Wants Of Atlin

Mrs. Hitchcock Makes Strong Representations Regarding Its Condition.

Members of Board of Trade and Others Deliberate on Time-ly Topics.

A rather informal meeting of the B. C. Board of Trade was held yesterday afternoon, and although no quorum was present, there was quite a number of public-spirited citizens and visitors in attendance. These latter included among others Mrs. Hitchcock, the well known journalist; Miss Glenn, of San Francisco, another lady engaged in literary work, who is visiting British Columbia and Captain Worsnop, of Vancouver.

Vice-President McQuade called on C. H. Lugin to open the proceedings, all that could be done in the absence of the required number of members being referred to the council of the board of trade subject matters of debate. A letter from Percy D. Whitehead, addressed to the president, was submitted by Mr. Lugin. It read as follows:

"I much regret that on account of business requiring my time and attention at home, that I will be unable to attend your meeting Monday. I quite expected to meet with the gentlemen of your board yesterday (Friday), but the unforeseen circumstances of the celebration of Macleod's relief, which caused the adjournment until Monday, of course precluded that pleasure.

I am pleased to find that some interest is being taken by Victorians in the Atlin district; the Colonist and Times particularly, constantly calling these matters to the attention of your citizens, and the board of trade, who, it is hoped, will take steps to induce the miner and prospector to locate in that country on the Canadian side, so well known on account of its rich placer mines. When this is done, capital will follow in the wake.

When you consider that the output for the Klondike district for the year was over \$10,000,000, which undoubtedly will increase each year, as the population and development work increases, you will commence to realize what the possibilities are for the Atlin district, where Nature has hidden such rich treasures; the funds so far indicating that this section has a future equal to the Klondike. When you stop to consider the enormous mileage of Alaska, British Columbia, and the Northwest Territory and their valuable mineral resources, you can safely predict many permanent, busy mining camps, of which Atlin is one already, and I am sure in stating that the rich quartz ledges in and contiguous to that city will startle the mining world some day.

Nature has done more than man could ask for. The wonderful water courses are almost beyond comprehension. From the lake, Taku arm, Atlin lake and the hundreds of other lakes and rivers in themselves, will attract the attention of the world some day. Few people yet realize what wonderful bodies of water exist in that country, which will be great aids to the march of commerce in opening up the easiest, safest and quickest routes to points remotely inland.

In addition to the Atlin district you have the Big Horn and White Horse, which are sure to attract capital; a number of valuable quartz locations having already been made there; then there is all of that territory tributary to Lake Teslin, which will, without doubt, be found to possess both quartz and placer mines. It would appear to me that Victoria could not make a better investment than to have a corps of prospectors doing nothing else but prospecting for quartz locations, turning them over without cost to the capitalists who would agree to develop the properties. I would suggest to you that your board should have a good live committee on mines and mining comprised of gentlemen who would give a reasonable amount of their time each week to these matters, a committee that will put activity into the movement, and by their energy awake a broad spirit of enthusiasm among all, performing this duty with a true liberal spirit of local pride or patriotism, rather than any individual gains that may be obtained therefrom.

Boards of trade are recognized in all commercial circles as a responsible evidence of the prosperity of any city, and the fact that your splendid city of Victoria has realized the necessity of such an institution is greater reason why your members should show the staff they are made of, and prove that they are fully alive to the development of the great resources of their country. The proper kind of encouragement would overcome any serious obstacles in the way of success and counterbalance the reflections met with in mining districts by the few pessimistic individuals who attempt to decry the present resources and tremendous possibilities of your mining interests, but you must immediately pass such legislative laws as will safeguard capital, and give equal protection to native born or alien prospectors.

I am publishing a magazine, and through this medium will do all in my power to promote the interests of the districts I have mentioned. The magazine is a monthly publication, and the mining department which has been added, commencing June number, will contain about 40 pages of reading matter, in addition to illustrations. I am sending a special representative to write up all the territory around Atlin, Big Horn, Bennett, White Horse, etc., and at all times to co-operate with your board in promoting the interests of a country I so well know to be among the best mineral countries of the world.

PERCY D. WHITEHEAD.

Mr. Lugin commented somewhat briefly on the great possibilities of Atlin and, was more than ordinarily sanguine of the development of the agricultural resources of the country under proper laws and government. He had been told, and believed, to be a gentleman in his official capacity, but whether or not that officer had the necessary authority invested in him to deal with the different matters coming under treatment was a question to be learned at the meeting. It, as he was told, land reverted to the government in five years after the settler had spent labor

and money in its development, the injustice should be removed at once. It was a matter of great commercial importance to the people of Victoria that the country should be fully developed, but this required capital and that is now not forthcoming. He moved that Mrs. Hitchcock address the meeting, and would himself have something to say later on.

Consenting to the invitation, Mrs. Hitchcock said:

"I have come to make an appeal to you this afternoon. Do you know or do you begin to realize that the government is running a gigantic swindling scheme? If I prove this to your satisfaction, as well as eight other accusations that I have to make, will you not come to the rescue of the poor boys in Atlin who so sadly need your assistance? I have laid the case before those who were recently in authority, but have been tried at once. It gives them no judge to whom to appeal until it has starved them and reduced them to such a condition that when the judge finally makes his appearance the victims have been placed in a position by the actions of the government such that they are not able to pay the fee demanded before their case will be tried.

"My second accusation is that after the government has robbed its victims, it gives them no judge to whom to appeal until it has starved them and reduced them to such a condition that when the judge finally makes his appearance the victims have been placed in a position by the actions of the government such that they are not able to pay the fee demanded before their case will be tried.

"My third accusation is that the government is guilty of and responsible for the consequent despair, slow starvation, illness and death which ensue.

"My fourth accusation, that a magistrate has been placed in the little camp of Atlin to decide petty matters, and that his decisions have given such general dissatisfaction that many petitions have been sent for his recall, but unfortunately without effect.

"Accusation No. 5.—The government have turned a deaf ear to the petitions of those who have had a hospital; have allowed the Presbyterian church to build one, which those of us who went there with money to invest in the country have been called upon to support.

"No. 6.—That whereas nurses have been needed to succour and care those whom they have started into illness, we, who had not only eight, but more than sixteen hours of work to do daily, have been called upon to perform the duties of trained nurses, because we would not hear later, when before the Great Throne, I was elected to visit me not, and so our time, which was more precious than gold, was freely given to the victims of the government.

"No. 7.—Insufficient police protection is accorded life and property in the Atlin country, where four men only—a chief and three assistants—were maintained (when I left the camp in October) to represent the authority of the law in this new and unsettled community of great area. Two of the police force were detained on an island, where duty had called them; the other two were obliged to patrol creeks many miles from town, leaving its inhabitants of men who were forced by the pangs of hunger to break in and steal.

"My eighth and final accusation is that the government is guilty of placing almost insurmountable obstacles in the road to progress and prosperity. It utterly fails to realize that it is governing one of the richest mineral countries which exists in the world. Capital is loudly knocking at a barred and bolted door.

"Revenue is to suffer strangulation unless you can be aroused to aid in toppling over the boulders. Punish the blackmailers (for no other word expresses it) who offer to remove their stake for the petty sum of \$25.

"Had no mine, no interests whatever in the Atlin country, had I gone there simply on a pleasure trip, after having witnessed the cruel injustice as practised upon the poor pioneers, conscience would not allow me to abandon the boys who are now in despair after all their hard work, and so I came to plead with you to be up and doing, to cast aside whatever indifference you may feel towards that new country.

"After having made a strong plea for Atlin recently at a public meeting, for prominent official said to me: 'As you are a woman I maintained silence, but if a man had made such charges?' Do you think women have so little common sense that they wish to be allowed to make false statements? Do you think them cowardly desiring to hide behind a shield of sex? Holding before me every charge. Each statement made by me this afternoon I can prove, feeling confident that, can I but gain your sympathy, you will fight with me, that the life of this baby camp may be saved, and as it grows in strength and power and riches, great will be your reward." (Loud applause.)

John Grant, asked to give his views on the Atlin country and its laws, spoke at some length. He was surprised at not finding a larger attendance of members, as he had hoped all would have been anxious to be enlightened on the wants of the Atlin country. He thought it right that the members of parliament should at the earliest opportunity restore the confidence held in the province by all 25 years ago. A certain exemption, say \$2 or \$3 in the royalties paid on all placer claims, ought, he believed, to be allowed to defray the expenses of smelting, etc. He would advise appointment of a resident judge for the country, and a liberal policy in the granting of land rights to big companies, one of which he instanced as having been brought to a stand still in its operations because of not being able to get the necessary land grant. He also was in favor of good roads and trails, for without these it was impossible to get heavy machinery into the country. A recording office at Surprise, where six streams meet, was also a necessity.

Walter Grime considered that a series of resolutions were passed by the board and presented to the government regarding the wants of the Atlin country some of the much needed reforms might be secured. Legislation, regulating claim jumping could easily be framed, and he would suggest a resolution towards that end. Another might be in re-

spect to the 100-foot claim, requiring that so much work be done on the property, which he thought should not be restricted as at present. Others might recommend extending the payment of the \$100 necessary for the procuring of hydraulic leases over two years, the building of trails, roads, the increasing of the gold commissioner's powers, the removal of the obstructions to navigation in the Atlin river, the granting of bigger properties for what is known as the 100-ft. claims, the circulation of better news regarding Atlin than has already gone abroad and the relieving of the White Pass and Yukon railway from the present support which it has given the customs at Bennett over and above the charges paid on merchandise, which amounts, he has found, to be already something over \$5,000.

C. D. Mason, who went to Atlin last year, also spoke at some length regarding the defects of the Placer Mining Act. He believed that the amendments to the act, suggested by Lieut.-Governor McInnes, should be enacted, particularly regarding the recording of the claims by number instead of by name. All claims should be surveyed by a government surveyor, and where small parcels of land between two claims the uncultivated lots should be put up at auction and sold to the highest bidder. He also believed that a county court judge should be appointed, and thought that the gold commissioner's stipend should be enlarged as that gentleman was an excellent man, but that which Mr. Mason thought could be improved, and that the provision for amusement in this city, Seattle was an attractive place for the miner to go after the monotony of northern life, and in order to cope with that city Victorians had to be up and doing.

Mr. Eyles followed this speaker. He said he was going North soon, and had better not say too much now about the country, although if the present conditions continued he would certainly be heard from before long. A few more lawyers, he believed, ought to be in the legislature instead of the philosophers, economists and others now there.

Capt. Worsnop thought the people of British Columbia ought to act on the precept of God helps those who help themselves. As soon as this was done and staple mining laws enacted, there would capital flow in here from the Old Country. He quite endorsed what Mrs. Hitchcock had said, especially regarding the appointment of a resident judge. He spoke of how difficult it was for a wronged man to get redress in this country, that with good legislation this country was bound to advance. English capitalists were anxious just now of helping out British Columbia as there were spots in this province which completely overshadowed South Africa.

Mr. Eyles did not wish the impression to go abroad that a man could not find redress in the courts of British Columbia. He believed that all claims should be taxed. Capt. Worsnop, however, was quick to correct himself regarding the British Columbia courts. He said he had not intended to say that, but that the most insurmountable difficulties in the way of carrying out justice in Atlin. A good general agent in London, Eng., was, in his opinion, what this province needed.

Upon Capt. Worsnop resuming his seat John Grant moved the resolution of thanks to Mrs. Hitchcock, which H. D. Helmcken seconded in a graceful manner. The resolution was unanimously carried and the meeting adjourned.

Besides those already mentioned as present were Messrs. W. T. Andrews, Thompson, Lindsay, McPhillips and N. P. Shaw.

SCENES AT A "WAKE."

(Associated Press.)

New York, May 25.—All night long a most extraordinary scene was enacted in the Hillier mansion, says a special from Wilmington, Mass. It was the occasion of the "wake" over the body of "Lady of the Caskets," prior to the funeral which will be held to-day.

In the presence of the dead, shrouded in costly silks, smothered under 500 yards of handsome lace, weighed down by gold and jewels and reposing in the \$50,000 coffin, crowds of neighbors wept and moaned and talked of the dead eccentric and gossiped of the inheritance of her wealth. Open-handed hospitality upon the part of Mr. Hillier, the widower, was displayed.

Guards had been posted on the estate to prevent the intrusion of undesirable persons, but before midnight the crowd broke all bounds and there was a scene of much confusion on the lawn, and through the house.

A second will has been found. Irit Mrs. Hillier revoked her bequests to Yale University and Boston hospitals, and divided the residue of her estate between her coachman, husband and relatives.

LORD MORRIS.

(Associated Press.)

London, May 25.—Lord Morris, one of the Irish recipients of the Queen's birthday honors, who was created a life peer in 1889, was yesterday made a hereditary peer.

Doan's Backache Kidney Pills
Do you have backache? Pain back of your eyes? Bad taste in your mouth? It's your liver. Doan's Backache Kidney Pills are the best. They cure backache, headache, dizziness, and all liver complaints. 25c. All druggists.

Wash your hands thoroughly of soap & water. Buckingham's Eye Pills are the best. They cure eye troubles. 25c. All druggists.

THE ALPHA'S VOYAGE.

Steamer's Voyage Largely an Experiment—Passengers Aboard in Good Spirits.

H. A. M. Bonner, a passenger on the steamer Alpha, writing from Dutch Harbor under date of May 8th to a friend in Seattle, has the following to say regarding the voyage of the steamer:

"The trip throughout has been a very pleasant one. We have had very beautiful weather nearly all the trip, only having two storms during the voyage. The officers have been very obliging, and it is all owing to the kindness of the captain, Otto Buckholtz, that I have been able to obtain what information I have written. With the exception of the first officer, Captain McGinnis, there has been no sickness on board, and he was only laid up for a few days.

"On Thursday, May 3rd, a very pleasing event occurred on board the ship. Mr. Frank McQuillan, one of the most popular young men on board the Alpha, and who possesses a very rich claim on Dexter creek, Nome, was married by Captain Buckholtz to Miss Clara Meyer, a young lady from Seattle. The event was followed by a very merry time on board the ship, and celebrated by a jolly dance on shore last night, given to the passengers by the dance of the harbor the Hero, a large coal vessel bound for Victoria, Canada, and the Mary D. Humes, a small vessel, bound for Nome. She arrived before us on the same morning. She is going to take on to the southeast the ill-fated Laura left on St. George's Island. Up to the present neither the Jeanie nor any revenue cutters have arrived here."

Mr. Bonner says the Alpha's trip was simply an experiment to see if it was possible to get to Nome by using the Japanese current, and passing to the southeast of St. Lawrence Island, instead of the usual "inside" passage, as it is called.

The reason for making the attempt and the writer's interest in it, says Captain Buckholtz's own words: "I was trusting to meet the Japanese current with its warmer temperature flowing according to Admiralty directions west of St. Mathews, east of St. Lawrence, above the 60 degree latitude strongly marked. I never found the temperature of the water in steering at an average course of west, northwest throughout, change more than two or three degrees, whereas had I met the Japanese current crossing these latitudes, I should have, by carefully recording the temperature every hour as I have done, found the water fifteen to twenty degrees warmer. I found no such change, and I am safe to say that there is no such current there, as the Admiralty directions state."

POLITICAL NOTES.

Ralph Smith at Revelstoke—Jas. Dunsmuir's Pledge.

D. M. Eberts has gone up the line to assist Jas. Dunsmuir in his campaign in South Yukon.

The Nanaimo Herald has the following regarding Mr. Dunsmuir's speech at Wellington:

"He claimed to be a consistent friend of the workmen and opponent of Chinese labor. He had fought the question for nearly eleven years. He knew, however, that the most insurmountable difficulties in the way of carrying out justice in Atlin. A good general agent in London, Eng., was, in his opinion, what this province needed.

"A voice—For how long? Mr. Dunsmuir—For ever.

"A voice—When? Mr. Dunsmuir—As soon as white men could be got to take their places.

"His managers were here to-night and he would instruct them in the presence of the audience to employ white men in place of Chinese in all capacities and ground as soon as chances offered. He had promised the Semlin-Cotton government to take the Chinese out last session if they would drop the eight-hour law, but they had refused. He believed in the long run, that it would do nothing with it, and to show that it couldn't he had insisted on employing Chinese in the mines and carried the question through all the courts to prove his right to do so. Now, however, he had changed his mind and intended putting the Chinese out of the mines.

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SEE THAT THE FAC-SIMILE SIGNATURE OF OF WRAPPER OF EVERY BOTTLE OF CASTORIA

900 DROPS

Vegetable Preparation for Assimilating the Food and Regulating the Stomachs and Bowels of

INFANTS & CHILDREN

Promotes Digestion, Cheerfulness and Rest. Contains neither Opium, Morphine nor Mineral. NOT NARCOTIC.

Perfect Remedy for Constipation, Sour Stomach, Diarrhoea, Worms, Convulsions, Feverishness and Loss of Sleep.

Fac Simile Signature of CHAS. H. FITCHER NEW YORK.

46 months old 35 DROPS—35 CENTS

EXACT COPY OF WRAPPER.

HERE WE ARE.....

With all the requisites for your lunch baskets. A few of the dainties:

CHRISTIE'S FRUIT CAKES 20c
DEVILED CHICKEN 10c and 15c
BONED CHICKEN, TURKEY AND
PORK AND BEANS IN TOMATO
SAUCE 10c
SHRIMP, LOBSTERS AND CRABS IN
SALADS 2 for 25c
PORT WINE 50c bottle
SHERRY 50c bottle

DIXIE H. ROSS & CO.

J. PIERCY & CO.

WHOLESALE GRY GOODS.

WE MANUFACTURE BY WHITE LABOR.

Negligee Top Shirts, Tweed Pants,

And the Strong and Durable Ironclad Overalls, Blouses, Jumpers, etc.

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To Our Patrons

LAST YEAR we had such a demand for our Seeds that we were SOLD OUT before the season was fairly over; therefore we start THIS YEAR with a FRESH, CLEAN and NEW CROP.

SEEDS

Everything warranted to be such and true to name. We keep the very CHOICEST and CLEANEST stock of goods on the Coast. Wholesale price list now ready; write for it. Thanking you for your kind patronage in the past and hoping to be favored with YOUR BIG ORDERS in the future, we are, yours very truly,

THE BRACKMAN & KER MILLING CO., LD., VICTORIA, B.C.

VITALLETS MAKE STRONG AND MANLY MEN.

FREE TO MEN AND WOMEN.

VITALLETS For Nerve Strength and Blood Health.

Vitallets are a powerful nerve, brain and blood food. They feed the brain, build up the nerves, wash, worn and tired nerves, purify the blood, make every organ and every cell come up to its normal life. Have you weak nerves or impaired blood? Do you lack energy, ambition or vigor? Is your memory poor? Are you constipated? Are your kidneys inactive? Are you a man and get not a woman, back of your neck, or other effects of early indiscretions, overwork, worry or other excesses? Are you a woman and afflicted with any of the diseases peculiar to your sex or have you any of the symptoms mentioned above? Then take VITALLETS and you will feel well.

Free investment sent prepaid, by mail. Do not delay but order now.

MALYDOR MFG. CO., Box 718, Columbus, Ohio.

To the Electors of Esquimalt District.

Gentlemen—I have the honor to offer myself for re-election to the local legislature as an opponent of the present government.

If elected, I shall oppose the provincial suppression of railways; the giving of large grants of land and money to railway and other corporations; and while keeping faith in the justice of grants already made, will resist the passage of any law that may injuriously affect the rights of free miners and actual settlers on railway lands.

I shall favor government assistance in exploring and opening up newly discovered mining sections; strong measures for the suppression of Oriental immigration; the cancellation of all timber leases, land and other grants, where the requirements of the charters have not been complied with; liberal grants of money for roads, and a more efficient method in its expenditure; and the equalization of taxation. Every good measure will have my support, no matter by whom introduced.

I shall take an early opportunity of addressing you more at length upon the political issues, and meanwhile remain, Faithfully yours,

D. W. HIGGINS.

EVERY WEAK MAN SHOULD send for a Descriptive Tract on the Most Recent (Scientific) Treatment of Nervous Diseases and Physical Weakness in Men, Women and Children. Received in progress with the most advanced researches in the subject, together with valuable special testimonials, bearing incontrovertible evidence. Write for one and gratis this opportunity of being cured. Write to the Proprietor, Dr. J. C. HORTON, 25 St. Charles Lane, London, E.C. Send no money.

CERTIFICATE OF IMPROVEMENT.

"THE BENTLEY AND MCGREGOR" MINERAL CLAIMS

Situate in the Victoria Mining Division of B. C. Where located, in Section 8, T. 4, R. 10, Goldstream District, Vancouver Island. Take notice that J. Benjamin Williams, Free Miner's Certificate No. 58837, in Trade, sixty days from the date hereof, to apply to the Mining Recorder for a Certificate of Improvements for the purpose of obtaining a Crown Grant of the above claims. And further take notice that the said Section 8 must be commenced before the issuance of such Certificate of Improvements.

Dated this 17th day of May, 1900.

J. B. WILLIAMS.

\$1.50

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