

NEWS OF THE PROVINCE.

The Chinese Puzzle at Westminster—Precautionary Measures for the Protection of Fruit.

Accident to the Empress of Japan—A Suspicious Find off Light-house Island.

VANCOUVER.

VANCOUVER, June 25.—Under the auspices of Harmony Lodge No. 18, I. O. G. T., a grand concert was given this evening in Odd Fellows hall.

Arthur Wilson, late proprietor of the Cedar Cottage nurseries, died yesterday afternoon of convulsions, the result of drink. Yesterday afternoon as the steamer Empress of Japan was wearing her stern away from the wharf to make way for the Empress of India, she was struck by the strong tide running at the time from the direction of Hastings mill and every line snapped except the bowline. She consequently swung round so as to strike the old Robert Kerr with speedy destruction and the latter had to be cut adrift to save her from being smashed.

The anchor of the Empress had to be let go and the steamer moved toward the pier at the corner of Victoria and Stanley streets and the danger was soon over.

KASLO.

The town is building up at a great rate. On Front street, Mahoney's hotel and Coy's building are now under construction, and three other buildings are now being started.

In the other sections of the town, building operations are being actively pursued. The price of real estate is steadily rising, and very few of the owners of property who have been in the town for some time are willing to sell.

Bremner & Watson have got their store on the trail between Bear and Fish lakes, opened. They report a rushing business. There is a demand for pack animals.

David Porter and E. A. Bieleberg have located two claims, the Anglo Saxon and the Celt, on Watson creek, four and one-half miles above the forks of Carpenter creek.

Two survey parties left on Wednesday to locate the railroad line from the forks of Kaslo river to the mouth of the Fraser. The trail is now all but through to the Noble Five. The grades have given no serious trouble.

On Wednesday evening a largely-attended general meeting was held to consider the best means of protecting the town against fire. A committee was appointed to estimate the probable cost of bringing water into the town in a tunnel from Kaslo river, and decide on the best point to take the water from.

A fire brigade was also formed, which practically consisted of all the men in the town who were able to handle a hose. The committee also elected a chief, Mr. A. Fletcher, and Mr. Murchison lieutenant. A fire bell, buckets, ladders, etc., are to be secured at once.

VANCOUVER.

VANCOUVER, June 25.—The Warship was decorated with flags to-day, Coronation day. At high noon 21 guns were fired, the band playing the National Anthem as the Royal standard was raised to the mast head.

The steamer Umatilla brought in a quantity of berries, including currants and gooseberries. The berries are in fine condition.

Great excitement is in Chinatown, to-day, caused by the arrest of Ah Foo and Ah Hee, for conspiring to lay false information against Bo Kim for the purpose of obtaining a large sum of money from him. There is also an information against Ah Hee for administering destructive noxious things to Bo Kim, with intent to injure or annoy him.

When the officers went to Ah Hee's house, his wife became frantic and attacked them like a fury. It was only after great struggles that he was finally dragged away. Ah Foo and Ah Hee will lay charges against him.

Bo Kim for laying a false information against them. The plot seems to thicken, and pretty soon the city "henchmen" will be full of yellow faces, if things go on at the same rate. There seem to be plots and counter plots everywhere.

On Sunday last, during the thunderstorm, two men near the Sloan Star were struck by lightning, one of them being instantly killed, the other was insensible for some hours, but eventually recovered.

A body, very much decomposed, was found last week on the Kaslo slope. It was not recognizable. It is thought, however, that it may be Charles Randall, who has not been heard of since he left Nelson last winter.

It is definitely settled that the sale of lots in Nidorado will take place on July 20.

SLOCAN.

Fishermen who have been in Nelson looking for sport have gone away disgusted, saying that there are no fish either in lake or river.

The operations of the Electric Light Co. have been retarded because they could not arrive at a satisfactory agreement with Messrs. Sprout & Farwell, the owners of the property through which they must tunnel water from Cottonwood-Smith creek.

F. E. Walsh is down from New York, and reports business booming. He has arranged with the Canadian Pacific Railway and Columbia & Kootenay Navigation Company for through rates for passengers and freight from all points to Eldorado City.

People are beginning to go into the Sloco country by the Nakusp trail, which is an easy grade through to the lake. The small controversy about the name of the creek is settled.

The lake has risen so much that boats will soon be unable to make a landing at the centre stage of the government wharf.

John Fielding, H. P. L. S., has completed the survey of land north and south of Kaslo city. He expects to survey a townsite some four miles up the trail.

D. Garmel, late chief engineer of the government dock at Esquimalt, whilst steering

J. T. Davies' scow slipped, and falling against a piece of cordwood broke a rib.

On Wednesday Nelson stood in some danger of repeating Vancouver's experience of six years ago. The contractors in charge of street clearing on Silica and Carbonate streets chose that morning, which was dry and calm, for setting fire to the brush and logs they had accumulated there.

After 11 o'clock a furious wind began to blow down Cottonwood-Smith creek valley and the fire to run in the direction of the houses on the south side of Silica street.

At one time it could not have been more than 50 feet from buildings on Silica street, and from the frame of the new English church. Fortunately the ground was damp and the fire did not spread very fast.

At another point on Silica street, east of Josephine street, it was in danger of spreading over the bluff and clearing out east Baker street.

Until the rain came on and the wind fell considerable anxiety was felt for the safety of the residences recently built by Messrs. Colwell & Stucky on Silica street.

The main part of the town was in greater danger from the wharf to make way for the Empress of India, she was struck by the strong tide running at the time from the direction of Hastings mill and every line snapped except the bowline.

She consequently swung round so as to strike the old Robert Kerr with speedy destruction and the latter had to be cut adrift to save her from being smashed.

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promises to be limited. The hot weather is having a good effect on some fruit although it will be late before it will be ripe enough to export.

Some time back the merchants of this city signed an agreement in favor of early closing. One dry goods merchant, however, states he intends to keep open till 8 o'clock.

The matter was brought before the Miners' Association last evening, and promises made to co-operate with those in favor of early closing.

A letter was read at the council meeting last evening, from Dr. A. E. Haeger, medical officer, asking that steps be taken to prevent Chinamen from landing at Nanaimo when coming from Vancouver.

His Worship stated that, to his own knowledge, there was one case of a Chinaman coming from the Orient to Vancouver, who was suffering from small pox, and the authorities tried to get him into the hospital on the plea that he was suffering from typhoid fever.

The licensed victuallers presented a petition to the council, praying that a reduction from \$300 to \$200 be made in the license. The temperance party took up a counter petition signed by about 150 residents, praying that the petition be not entertained.

The matter was fully discussed, and it was decided to do nothing in the matter this year.

Vessels are rather scarce in harbor. Sallie Thomas (colored) appeared in the Police court to-day charged with stealing from the Steamer Senator on Sunday.

Sallie resides in New Westminster, and in company with a woman of questionable character, was out late. The other party being too intoxicated to get home was assisted by Sallie.

Next morning, however, Sallie was found in the previous night. Sallie came to Nanaimo on Sunday, when a warrant was issued. She will be arrested and taken to Westminster to-morrow.

Mr. and Mrs. Bailey, of Wellington, started for Nanaimo in a buggy this morning. The horse became unmanageable, upsetting the rig and throwing the occupants out. Mr. Bailey had several ribs broken.

Mrs. Bailey was unhurt, but her horse was killed. Two longhorns, Frank Payne and George Lyndon, began quarrelling this morning over some trivial matter, when Payne drew his knife and attempted to stab Lyndon in the abdomen.

The knife went through his clothes and made a small flesh wound, when Lyndon broke away from his assailant and sought police protection. Payne was arrested.

CANADIAN NEWS.

LASTOWITZ, June 25.—A deliberate attempt was made to burn Hoy's mill, yesterday. The flames were discovered in time to prevent a serious conflagration.

HALIFAX, June 25.—The Government is reducing the number of trains on the Intercolonial railway. The Chicago fast express, the mid-day suburban, the morning express from Truro, and the night through trains running out of Halifax have been cancelled.

The Chicago express is now combined with the Canadian short line express.

BRANDON, June 25.—Louis Olman, a brakeman on the Northern Pacific, whilst attempting to pass from a box to a flat car, fell from the train, and was killed.

He was running to Winnipeg, fell to the ground and the wheels passed over him, badly mangled his legs. He died shortly after.

MILVERTON, June 25.—Rev. Thos. Laury, formerly of British Columbia, and now minister in the province, is dead, aged 81.

QUEBEC, June 25.—The Irishmen of Quebec and other admirers of Hon. Edward Blake have decided to hold a demonstration of a railway to it from Nanaimo through Comox, would open up a trade route by steam ferry from Nanaimo to the terminus of the Canadian Pacific Railway at Vancouver, by which eventually the vast trade springing up between China, Japan, Siberia and America will find its way through a secure British port, and I believe that before many years Pacific Sound will be the port of call for the ships of the world.

A controversy has been going on in the London press with reference to the resolution endorsed by the Liberal party in the House of Commons, that, in the event of a war, Great Britain should not admit the goods of Canada into her ports free of duty.

The House is of opinion that the present scale of duties exacted mainly from goods imported from Great Britain, is a heavy burden, and that it is "an adroit adoption of the policy initiated in the so-called Reciprocity treaty between the United States and Great Britain, which has the effect of bringing the goods of the United States into competition with the goods of Canada."

It is urged that this is something very different from the Liberal policy enunciated by Sir Richard Cartwright at the time of the Canadian Pacific Railway, which was never in the way of his right. From the eighth to the twelfth round Johnston seemed to get a little stronger and Dixon fired a little. In the thirteenth round Dixon made some of his effective work, and the fourteenth he flew at his man, thrusting his left wickedly in Johnston's stomach, and then planted his right squarely on the Englishman's chest.

Johnston went down, and as he fell he caught Dixon's hand and pulled the colored boy over with him. Dixon was quickly on his feet, but poor Johnston was done for. He was on his feet once, but fell, and again he got upon his knees, but finally fell over unconscious. Johnston, when he came to, first time, struck his head a terrific crack on the floor, and it is a question whether the fall or the blow defeated him. Dixon is too cool to fight, and there is no doubt that Johnston was out-matched.

LONDON LETTER.

Col. Englehard Writes on Pacific Coast Defence—Barclay Sound's Advantages.

Trade Relations Between Canada and Great Britain—Discriminating Duties Discussed.

From our own Correspondent.

LONDON, June 25.—Lord Brassey's decided expressions of opinion recently concerning the necessity for coaling stations in the North Pacific, have evoked from Colonel W. J. Englehard (late Royal Engineers) a long and interesting letter published by the Times.

Therein Colonel Englehard admits the undesirability of expending any further money "in an attempt to bolster up the second rate station of Esquimalt." To improve or defend such a station would, he declares, be practically an impossibility—due to modern artillery and, amongst other reasons, to the vicinity of the city of Victoria.

He does not endorse the idea that Burrard Inlet is an eligible position and suggests a doubt whether the dangers arising from the fogs and the intricate navigation of the channels, both on the north-eastern and the south-eastern coasts of Vancouver Island leading to the harbor, do not materially detract from the importance of the locality.

The immediate vicinity also of the American boundary line, he holds to be a disadvantage. In fact, he holds that nowhere do greater facilities exist for the establishment of the Pacific seaport and naval station of the future than in Barclay Sound.

He holds that the advantages of the port are fourfold:—1. It is a port easily made from the sea, and its headland can be seen for a considerable distance along the coast and out to sea, in which case it will not likely be found for some weeks, perhaps never.

Search is still being made.

2. A good lighthouse exists on Cape Beale, and a similar light on Amphitrite Point, with foghorns at both places, would make the entrance safe at all times.

3. The entrance to the Sound is sheltered by islands, with deep-water channels between, which form a line of outer defence, and further up the harbor similar islands exist, forming interior defences which, with the modern appliances of science, would render the island shores practically impregnable.

4. Good building stone and lime exist in abundance within the Sound, and neighboring forests would furnish the best of timber.

Colonel Englehard sums up as follows: "Although a secure coaling station is the primary consideration, it is in Barclay Sound, and not in Burrard Inlet, that a railway to it from Nanaimo through Comox, would open up a trade route by steam ferry from Nanaimo to the terminus of the Canadian Pacific Railway at Vancouver, by which eventually the vast trade springing up between China, Japan, Siberia and America will find its way through a secure British port, and I believe that before many years Pacific Sound will be the port of call for the ships of the world."

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the gang to stop. One of the crowd suggested tar and feathers, but the poor man broke away from his captors and escaped to the woods. Where he is no one knows, but as he was without anything it is probable that he has made his way to Oxford or Middleburg and has been cared for by some farmer.

Southford is a small station on the England road, and now does not travel beyond its borders. The story of the outrage was brought here the afternoon by the stage driver. He said the town is greatly worked up over it and a few strongly condemn the proceedings.

THE VANCOUVER SUICIDE.

Little Doubt that the Girl was Edith Edgar—The Body Not Yet Found.

VANCOUVER, June 25.—There is little doubt now as to the identity of the young woman whose life was sacrificed, on Sunday, in the waters of False cove. Edith Edgar has been missing from home ever since, and her description so nearly tallies with that of the woman, that no hope is entertained. It must have been her, but as yet nothing elicited to explain why she should have suicided, and the theory of "accident" is now more generally accepted.

Mrs. Edgar's statement, the coroner's report, and the fact that the girl made frantic efforts to keep herself afloat would seem to confirm the accident theory.

There is a rumor current that the victim was Edith Lyle, formerly keeper of a house of ill fame in Dupont street, and lately an inmate of the Salvation Army Reformatory. It is said that there does not seem to be anything in the fact, but the Lyle woman returned here from Victoria on Sunday morning and has not been seen since.

Some of the Salvation Army were Mr. and Mrs. Lyle, and it is said that the girl was not yet found. The tide was strong under the bridge, and it is quite possible may have carried the corpse out to sea, in which case it will not likely be found for some weeks, perhaps never.

Search is still being made.

THE RING.

Fight at Coney Island in Which Dixon, of Nova Scotia, Defeats Johnston.

CONY ISLAND, N. I., June 27.—About 5,000 persons witnessed the fight to-night at the Coney Island Athletic Club's grounds between Johnston of Birmingham, England, and George Dixon of Nova Scotia, feather-weight champion of the world. The receipts for admission aggregated about \$18,000. The fight was a pure of \$5,000, of which the loser was to receive \$500. The betting was \$100 to \$80 in favor of Dixon.

The fight began at 9:45 p.m. Dixon was seconded by Tom O'Shaughnessy, Morris Kelly and Ed. Kelly. Johnston was seconded by Johnston's handlers were Charles Martin of Newark, N. J., Bill Plimber and Benny Murphy, a thoroughly English party.

Dixon in the first round opened the proceedings by striking Johnston against the ropes, placing at the same time his right on the Englishman's stomach and his left on the jaw. Johnston was surprised at the sudden attack, and did not rally before Dixon was on top of him again in the same way. The spectators yelled boisterously at this, but Johnston recovered his senses and planted his right a couple of times on Dixon's ribs.

The succeeding rounds were similar to the first, except that Johnston began to duck in front of Dixon's rushes and Dixon would catch him in the face with left-hand uppercuts. Clinch followed clinch, and the "ringing" of the gloves was fast and furious.

The excitement in the hall was terrific. Johnston, however, came up every round a thoroughly exhausted man, and did not rally before Dixon was on top of him again in the same way. The spectators yelled boisterously at this, but Johnston recovered his senses and planted his right a couple of times on Dixon's ribs.

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