

TO REVISE THE LAW

Recommendations for Amending the Present Mineral Act.

MUST DO ASSESSMENTS

Partners Can't Shirk Their Proportion of the Annual Representation - Want the Company License Fee Changed - To Protect Locators.

The necessity for amending and revising the present provincial mining laws was vigorously discussed on Friday at a public meeting held in the City hall. Half a dozen resolutions were passed recommending to the legislature the changes which the meeting deemed most important at the present time. It was agreed that a partner in a mineral claim failing to do his portion of the assessment work should forfeit to his partners his interest in the property. It was also agreed that the company license fee should be made to extend for one year from the date of issue, or else a license should be issued for fractional parts of a year. At present company licenses expire arbitrarily on the 30th of June annually, whether they were secured one day or one year before that time. Another recommendation was that work on a crown-granted claim should count as assessment work on contiguous prospects held by the owner or owners of the crown granted property. The meeting last night was a well attended one. Close to 40 mining men were present, among whom were prospectors, brokers and practical mining men. The situation was pretty thoroughly discussed from all sides. May Wallace presided and John McKane was secretary.

To Compel Assessment Work. James M. Martin, M. P., read a number of communications bearing upon the mining law which he had received from constituents all over the district. Mr. Martin, seconded by F. W. Rolt, suggested that the following change in the law be made, and the recommendation was adopted unanimously: "Upon the failure of any one of several co-owners in a claim to contribute his proportion of the expenditures required hereby, the co-owners who have performed the labor or made the improvement may at the expiration of the year, give such delinquent co-owner personal notice in writing at his last known address and file a notice in the recorder's office for 90 days; if at the expiration of 90 days after such notice in writing, such delinquent co-owner refuse to contribute his proportion of the expenditure required by this section his interest in the claim shall become the property of his co-owners, who have made the required expenditures."

Regarding Claim Stealing. Another matter under consideration was an amendment to the law to protect the original locator of a claim. It was pointed out that at present a jumper can stake a claim over a previous location. By rushing the assessment work on his location, the jumper can secure a crown grant to it before the original holder of the claim can perfect his title. The remedy suggested was to make each original location a preferred location, whether or not its title was defective. Any subsequent location covering any of the same ground would be considered merely a protest location, until the gold commissioner could adjudicate on the matter. The proposed remedy was objected to on the ground that it would place too much judicial power in the hands of the gold commissioner. No definite action on the matter was taken.

For Compelling Crown Grants. A change which was suggested was to make it impossible for a company to be floated for the purpose of handling any but crown granted properties. The supporters of the measure urged that in the past many wild cat companies had been promoted with no asset except an uncrown granted location. The company afterwards would collapse, and as no more assessments would be done the prospect would revert to the crown, while the innocent shareholders would have not a single asset. If companies should be floated only with crown granted properties, that danger would be done away with and the camp would avoid a somewhat unsavory reputation that might be gained if that precaution were not taken. The opponents of the measure urged that the public was in position itself to judge as to the merits of any company's title and that the passage of the measure would prevent the flotation of meritorious properties owned by poor prospectors. The suggestion was not adopted.

At the instance of A. H. MacNeill, a motion was unanimously carried recommending that in future company licenses should be valid for a year or should be issued for fractional periods, instead of expiring arbitrarily on the 30th of June as at present. There was a disposition to pass a recommendation to do away with the company license fee altogether, but James Martin, M. P., suggested that as this ruling would ask for a liberal appropriation for trails and roads at the coming session of the legislature, it would not be well to ask for the abolition of one of the large sources of revenue to the government contributed by this district.

Reduced Recording Fees. A recommendation, supported by John McLaren, was also adopted approving the abolition of the tax on working miners. A suggestion to reduce the license to \$2.50 was defeated unanimously.

John S. Clute introduced a motion recommending that no legislation be passed preventing aliens from becoming free miners. The motion was carried vociferously. F. W. Rolt suggested that there was need for the reduction of recording fees. At present the charge for entering a claim here is \$2.50, while across the line it is only \$1. The suggestion was met with approval. Mr. MacNeill brought up the question of wholesale claim staking. He recalled the fact that at one time in this camp a prospector claimed to hold 90 prospects, while recently at Golden a staker re-

corded 52 locations in two weeks. Mr. MacNeill pointed out the necessity for some sort of alteration in the laws on that subject. The suggestion was seriously considered.

John Dean suggested that in protection to the legitimate mining brokers the legislature should fix a license for them, and limit the mining brokerage business to the licensed brokers. A motion to that effect was carried.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

The Carnival Prizes. ROSSLAND, Dec. 9. EDITOR MINER-Sir: The program of the Rossland winter carnival, as printed in Friday morning's paper, includes some figures which might be taken by your readers to show the value of the prizes offered. Such an idea would be erroneous. For instance nine cups valued at nearly \$1,000 are offered for competition, but none of them is included in the figures published. The prizes for curling is merely the sum appropriated by the general carnival committee from the general fund to assist the curling club in purchasing the \$700 or \$800 worth of prizes it intends to give. The aggregate value of the prizes in all the events will total almost \$2,500. Yours very truly, H. W. C. JACKSON, Secretary Carnival Committee.

THE BICYCLE RACERS

Miller Made 2,007.6 Miles and Won the Race.

The Proceedings Were Enlivened by the Marriage of the Champion to Miss Hanson.

New York, Dec. 10.-Champion Miller and Miss Hanson were married in Madison Square Garden at 4:50 p. m. today. The wedding occurred in one of the boxes which surrounded the bicycle track. Alderman Wentz of this city performed the ceremony. Miller had to be lifted into the box by his trainer, so overcome was he by his herd. Mrs. O'Donnell, the mother of the bride, gave Miss Hanson away. Miss Schinner acted as bridesmaid, while Arthur Gardner of Chicago, was best man.

A tremendous cheer went up from the crowd as Miller, now a sure winner, and Miss Hanson were declared man and wife. To cap the climax of enthusiasm, Walter went over and kissed the bride. The race then continued. Previous to the ceremony Miller put on a new orange and white racing suit and enlivened the proceedings by sprinting on various occasions, closely followed by Waller, Nawn, and Aronson. Pierce who had been obliged to give up all hope of catching Miller, maintained his pace. All the competitors left the track shortly after 3 o'clock to dress for the wedding. Harry Elkes then made an exhibition mile in 2:04 2/5. Eddie McDuffie of Boston then started on a five-mile exhibition, paced by a tandem, but fell owing to the front wheel of the tandem coming off and spilling all concerned. The accident re-opened the wound McDuffie sustained by his bad spill on Monday.

Harry Caldwell of Manchester, N. H., and Bobby Waldron of Atlanta, Ga., then went a mile. Caldwell won the first mile in 2:26 2/5. The second heat was won by Waldron in 2:29 1/5. The final scores made Miller, 2,007.4 miles; Waller, 1,985.2; Pierce, 1,906.7; Albert, 1,822.6; Gimn, 1,732.2; Lawson, 1,757.6; Aronson, 1,729.5; Nawn, 1,721.7; Forster, 1,668.8; Stevens, 1,519.8; Hale, 1,502.2; Julius, 1,166.7.

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The only true way to cleanse and enrich the blood is to use Paine's Celery Compound. Its vitalizing and purifying effect upon the blood of old and young is magical. The most virulent blood diseases quickly yield to its healing and cleansing power. No other medicine known to man has ever achieved the victories over obstinate blood troubles that Paine's Celery Compound has accomplished.

If you have a trace or system of blood disease your life is truly in danger. If you are anxiously seeking for a cure, have a care how you make use of the widely advertised "blood purifiers;" in the great majority of instances they are frauds. Ask your druggist for Paine's Celery Compound, the only medicine that can make your blood and flesh clean, pure and healthy.

MIND IS OUT OF TUNE.

Miss Donahue Is to Be Sent Back to Canada.

BUFFALO, N. Y., Dec. 10.-A young woman, Lizzie Donahue, said to be a sister of Mayor John Donahue, of Stratford, Ont., was removed from the house of Mrs. W. A. Birmingham, 600 East Eagle street, early this morning to the police headquarters. It is said she is insane and has been in that condition for years. At police headquarters it is claimed that Miss Donahue was shipped to Buffalo from Guelph, Ont., to get rid of her. The authorities say that the unfortunate young woman will be returned to Canada at once.

LIONS OF THE HOUR

Chamberlain and Monson Are Big Figures in Political Arena.

LATTER CAUSED A STIR

President McKinley's Message to Congress and Secretary Gage's Reply Have Been Warmly Discussed by the British Weeklies.

LONDON, Dec. 10.-There were two prominent figures in the political arena this week, the secretary of state for the colonies, Joseph Chamberlain, and the British ambassador at Paris, Sir Edmund J. Monson. The address of the latter to the British chamber of Commerce at Paris came like a peal of thunder, causing dismay on both sides of the channel where many people had affected to discern an already faint outline of a peace rainbow between France and Great Britain as a sequel of the passing over of the Fashoda storm. It is thought that Sir Edmund Monson got an official warning from the British foreign office to send him the British foreign office to send him the address, however, has served as a reminder to the people of both countries that the fire of the Sudan imbroglio is still smoldering and may burst into flame at any moment. The ambassador's warning, according to those qualified to know, was prompted by the fact that the French government in skulking over the Marchand affair is evading the diplomatic discussion of the pending Anglo-French problems and was intended to intimate that, with the change of French ambassador at London this week, Baron De Courcel being succeeded by M. Paul Cambon, the Marquis of Salisbury desired a more active treatment of the point is dispute.

Sir Edmund Monson's frankness is quite characteristic of the ambassador, and won for him the warm friendship of the Czar Alexander and the Emperor Francis Joseph, both of whom asked the British foreign office to send him their respective capitals when he visited Copenhagen, where he was persona grata at the court. He chose Vienna. Mr. Chamberlain's speech on Thursday, embracing the whole range of domestic and foreign politics, aroused as much interest abroad as at home. His forecast of ministerial domestic legislation of the coming session and then held the olive branch out to every foreign country, except France, to which he administered a salutary caution, which has been but little related.

The Police Court. Three Vagrants Directed to Get Out of the City. In the police court yesterday before the police magistrate, G. A. Jordan, Maud Sussie was fined \$20 for being an inmate of a house of ill-fame, and Lillie Johnson, a keeper, was fined \$30. Both paid their fines and were discharged. William White, Patrick Redmond and Michael Bowman, who strayed in from the construction forces on the Crow's Nest Pass railway, were found guilty of vagrancy. They were directed by the court to return from whence they came as rapidly as they could. They were then released on suspended sentence, and lost but little time in getting out of the city.

The Old Glory booth at the Church of England fair will be presided over by the following ladies: Mesdames O. F. Jackson, Dunlop, Cameron, Burritt and Dunn, and Misses Beardsley, Whitney and Ruff. These ladies will be dressed in fancy costume and they are making very extensive preparations for the success of their undertaking. The Golden City social club held one of its pleasant dances Thursday night in Dominion hall. Fifty couples were present. The clubs dances are among the most popular social events in the city and are rapidly growing more popular.

Sergeant McGowan of the police force, has gone to New Westminster in charge of Wm. McNulty, an insane prisoner, who has been committed to the asylum at that place. The Speaker of the House of Representatives, Mr. Charles D. Walcott, has returned from his tour of inspection of the Nicaragua canal. He has returned with a favorable report on the progress of the work.

RAISED THE FLAG.

Stars and Stripes Flies Over the City Hall at Mareano. HAVANA, Dec. 10.-The United States flag was unfurled over the city hall of Mareano at 12:30 o'clock this p. m. by Colonel Young, commanding the battalion of engineers at Mareano. A detachment of engineers, drawn up in the square, presented arms and the American flag was raised to the top of the pole. A crowd of townspeople gathered around the flag, and the latter called upon Colonel Young. A committee representing the officers and men of the garrison and the mobilized troops today waited upon Governor-General Castellanos and proposed that the men represented by the committee be given 50 per cent of the pay due them before the end of this month, offering to present the matter to the Spanish government for the benefit of the navy. General Castellanos will forward the offer to Madrid.

MCKINLEY HOPES THEY WILL.

Anglo-American Commission Should Agree on Reciprocity. NEW YORK, Dec. 10.-Both sides of the Anglo-American commission held a meeting today to prepare the way for their joint session on Monday, when efforts will be made to get together on some basis of reciprocity. At the meeting the chief of the Anglo-American commission was ready to grant and expected to receive. While the difference was quite material in terms of the pre-commission, a day said that there was no reason to take a discouraging view of the outlook, as there were strong hopes that the difference reciprocity which is conceded to be the chief obstacle, could be removed. The chief of the Anglo-American commission has taken occasion during recent talks with the members of the commission to express a most earnest desire that successful results may come of the negotiations.

The Rossland club held its annual election of officers Thursday night. J. S. O. Fraser was re-elected president, and Ross Thompson was made vice-president. The house committee of seven members was also elected.

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FAVORABLE TO DREYFUS.

A Damaging Blow Dealt to the Military Power. PARIS, Dec. 10.-The latest developments in the Dreyfus affair all tend in favor of Dreyfus, and public opinion in France is undoubtedly veering to his side. The decision of the court of cassation, which postponed the Picquart court martial indefinitely, is a damaging blow to the military party and the attempt to discredit the evidence in Paris was favorably received. The general reception of the decision in Paris was favorable. The provisions are being made to secure Colonel Picquart's provision of release, suggesting a strike of all the intellectual profession, teachers, students, artists and manufacturers who are preparing for the exhibition of 1900 withdrawing.

THE PARIS EXHIBITION.

Paris, Dec. 10.-Very discouraging rumors are afloat regarding the prospects of the Paris exhibition of 1900. But little real progress has been made in the high buildings, and the prospect of its completion in time are not of the brightest.

THE POLICE COURT.

Three Vagrants Directed to Get Out of the City. In the police court yesterday before the police magistrate, G. A. Jordan, Maud Sussie was fined \$20 for being an inmate of a house of ill-fame, and Lillie Johnson, a keeper, was fined \$30. Both paid their fines and were discharged. William White, Patrick Redmond and Michael Bowman, who strayed in from the construction forces on the Crow's Nest Pass railway, were found guilty of vagrancy. They were directed by the court to return from whence they came as rapidly as they could. They were then released on suspended sentence, and lost but little time in getting out of the city.

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TIME CARD. Subject to change without notice. Trains run on Pacific Standard time. GOING WEST Daily. Leave 8:30 a.m. Kaslo. Arrive 3:30 p.m. GOING EAST Daily. Arrive 8:30 a.m. Kaslo. Leave 3:30 p.m.

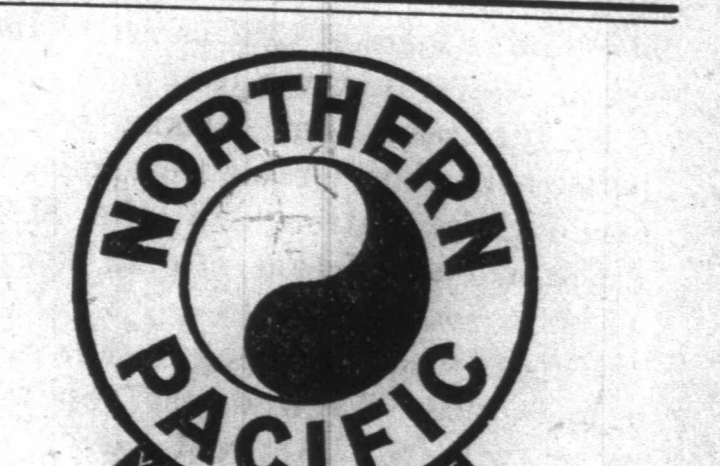
Contains the mining news not only in Rossland and vicinity but of the entire Kootenay district.

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Time Table No. 23, taking effect Jan. 1st, 1899. VANCOUVER ROUTE. Victoria to Vancouver-Daily, except Monday at 1 o'clock. Vancouver to Victoria-Daily, except Monday at 12:15 o'clock; or on arrival of C. P. R. No. 1 train.

NEW WESTMINSTER ROUTE. Leave Victoria for New Westminster, Ladner's Landing and Lulu Island-Sunday at 5:30 o'clock; Wednesday and Friday at 7 o'clock. Leave New Westminster to Victoria Monday at 12:15 o'clock; Thursdays and Saturdays at 9 o'clock. For Plumper Pass-Thursdays and Saturdays at 9 o'clock. For Plumper and Moresby Islands-Thursdays at 7 o'clock.

NORTHERN ROUTE. Steamships of this Company will leave for Fort Simpson and intermediate ports via Vancouver the 1st and 15th of each month at 8 o'clock. And for Sitka on 1st of each month.

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KLONDIKE ROUTE. Steamers leave weekly for Wrangell, Juneau, Dyea and Skagway. The Company reserves the right of changing this Time Table at any time without notification. JOHN IRVING, Manager. G. A. CHARLTON, General Agent, Victoria.