RESERVE NOW BELONGS TO CROWN

Closing Ceremony Whereby Songhees Tribe Surrenders Its Land to Government, was Enacted Yesterday

With the execution of the final deed of surrender, in form prescribed by the legal advisers of the Department of Indian Affairs, by Chief Cooper, and his councillors in behalf of the Songhees people, the historic reserve of this tribe in the heart of Victoria city became a thing of the past at 6 o'clock yesterday evening. The land has passed into possession of the crown as represented in the government of British Columbia, and the Songhees reservation coincidently becoming the new and beautiful tract of land, selected by themselves; and purchased for them from the Hudson's Bay Co. by the government of Premier McBride.

This last chapter in the protracted negotiations now at an end, approved by and satisfactory to all concerned, proved perhaps the most picturesque and dramatic incident in the settlement so long and earnestly desired as essential to Victoria's onward march. The scene was laid in the little reservation schoolhouse across the inner harbor, where virtually all of the interested tribe had gathered, together with Inspector Ditchburn, Mr. W. R. Robertson, the district agent, and Dominion Chief Constable Thomas O'Connell, of Nanaimo, representing the federal Department of Indian Affairs; Premier McBride, Mr. Rex Childs, secretary to the minister of lands; Hon. W. R. Ros, and acting in his behalf, Mr. J. S. H. Matson, Mr. H. Dallas Helmcken, K. C., and one or two others, together with Chief Cooper, his councillors and his people. Mrs. Gunnion acted most acceptably as interpreter, while the pretty little school and church, with its spttless cleanliness, its miniature piano, its patriotic and significant mottoes and its flower-decked windows, was in itself symbolical and suggestive of peace and civilization—the keynotes of the completed negotiations.

Courteous Ceremony

Inspector Ditchburn presided, and the preliminary formalities included the taking of individual receipts in duplicate for the moneys paid by the province in the $10,000 bonuses to all heads of Songhees families, and in the award for individual improvements, virtually all being on hand to gratefully accept their good fortune. The voluntary exceptions were Councillor Willie Jack, who has been an antagonistic element throughout the negotiations, and Tom James, his son-in-law. The agreement was, however, formally and finally ratified both by the Indians individually and by almost unanimous vote of the band in council, the proceedings being marked by quiet, dignified and courteous behavior on the part of the Indians, who have proven themselves excellent business men and good citizens throughout the negotiations, and by an evident disposition on the part of the Federal officials to do all within their power to expedite the surrender so greatly in the interest of this capital city.

Th formal agreement, as received from Ottawa, does not vary in any material feature the understanding arrived at between the Songhees and the provincial authorities, approved by the Dominion government, but merely reduces that agreement to the forms of legal phraseology. This agreement was very carefully read over to the assembled councillors and tribesfolk by Inspector Ditchburn. It provided specifically for the payment by the province of the agreed bonus to each family head, of the award for improvements, of a fair price for the schoolhouse and reservation water mains—this sum to be subsequently divided equitably among the people of the tribe, the conveyance to the Dominion of the new reserve in trust for the Indians, and the removal of the bodies and monuments of the Songhees dead to their new cemetery, at the cost of the province.

Final Ratification.

Upon the conclusion of the reading, and after virtually all had signed for their not inconsiderable fortunes, those who could write affixing their signatures with proper and very noticeable pride, and those who could not making their crosses with due appreciation of their significance, Inspector Ditchburn declared if all were satisfied with the consummation of the bargain and the surrender of the old home. A general and hearty assent was indicated in a wave sweeping over the little dusky assemblage, from the side of which Councillor Willie Jack rose hesitantly to voice the only note of protest, received with very obvious disapprobation by his fellow tribesmen.

Addressing Premier McBride, and speaking in his native tongue, which Mrs. Gunnion afterwards translated, his explanation of his difference with his tribe was expressed as follows:

"You remember," said he, addressing Premier McBride, "when all the chiefs were here from the different parts of the province a few weeks ago—from Cowichan, from Nanaimo, from Kamloops, from the north. These people came to you to see about getting their rights in selling their reserves. They met three times in Vancouver and once here to discuss that matter, and although they saw you, they did not get the rights they considered theirs. All these chiefs went to see you, sir, and they asked you who has the right in all those Indian properties, and you told them the government—the people in London. These chiefs were the appointed delegates of their tribes, the people trusted by the tribes. I was one of them, and the others were also men whom their peoples had picked out as men whom they could trust to do their business properly. All these chiefs made an agreement that they would not under any consideration sell their property to get money. They did not want to move at all, and all signed this agreement not to do so. I for one signed it, that I would not agree to sell. I have never told anyone of these different tribes what these people of my own tribe are doing in selling their reserve, and today I am wondering if I can, having signed that agreement, agree with my people to this sale? I want to know if I have the right to break my agreement with the other chiefs? The different tribes wonder who it was put them in their allotments in the first place. They want to live in their old homes always. The money they will get for moving away will not be equal with them to the possession of their old homes. I had promised to the other chiefs, and that is why I ask you now if I can rightly agree to this sale?"

Premier's Explanation.

Premier McBride, replying, pointed out that, as he understood Willie Jack, he wanted to know if he could conscientiously agree to the surrender of the reserve in the face of the agreement he stated he had made with the other Indians a few weeks ago. This could not, however, be a lawful and legal agreement unless ratified by the Indian Department, the guardian of the Indians, as represented here by Mr. Ditchburn. The law that had been made at Ottawa declared that when Indians who have a reserve, meet after proper notice and by a majority decide to give up a reserve, they may do so, with the consent of Ottawa. Such is the law. Those Indian chiefs who met him (the Premier) some weeks ago had set up the claim that they had a right to all of the lands in British Columbia, and they said that if the government would not admit that, that the government should go to the courts. He had told these Indians that they did not have a right to the lands, and consequently there was no case for the courts to try. And he had sent Mr. Kelly and others who were with that delegation, his answer in these terms. He had also sent a copy to Sir Wilfrid Laurier and had asked Sir Wilfrid to send it on to London, as he had promised to do. He had said then, and he wished to repeat it again, that we in British Columbia have always lived side by side, white man and Indian, happily and as friends. It was too bad indeed that people should get among the Indians and promote trouble, bad feeling and unhappiness between them and their white friends. In regard to the Songhees reserve, to be surrendered, he did not want anyone present to think that the provincial government would ask the tribe to surrender it for one dollar less than its worth, and he hoped that Willie Jack in his words had not meant to suggest that the government had acted otherwise than fairly, honorably and justly with the Indians. He hoped, too, that Willie Jack would not see his way to accept the situation as had the others of the tribe, and would make his new home with them on the beautiful new reserve at Esquimalt harbor.

Subscribe to Terms.

Upon the question being put to the tribe as to whether they subscribed to the terms of the surrender agreement, Willie Jack alone failed to respond affirmatively. Nor did he desire to be counted as opposing the transaction.

"I have got to write to the other chiefs and see if they agree that I may do so," he explained.

"Any action you may take, or these others may take, will make no difference in the consummation of this bargain," explained Inspector Ditchburn, citing the pertinent portions of the act. "The full voting strength of the Songhees tribe is here present today and twenty-nine of the thirty here have voted 'aye.' And Willie Jack does not wish to be counted as negative, but merely withholds his vote."

The signatures of Chief Cooper, Councillors William Robert, Tommy George and Jack Chish, with tribesmen Sam Flamand, Jimmie Freezie and Jimmy Johnny were then affixed to the agreement of surrender, amidst the applause of the band, and the Songhees reserve of past history became extinct as such. The acquiescing tribesmen include the oldest members of the band, while those taking part in the surrender were two or three venerable mothers of the band, one at least of whom retains vivid recollections of the coming of the first white men of what is now Victoria, and of the treaty with Sir James Douglas that removed the Indians to the further side of the harbor, the present site of Victoria having been their original home. It was primarily in order that these older members of the tribe might be well provided for that induced Chief Cooper to listen favorably to the proposals for a removal with compensating bonuses in cash.

March of Civilization.

After the execution of the surrender, Inspector Ditchburn cordially and appropriately congratulated all interested upon the conclusion of a first class bargain. The Songhees, he said, had been living on this reserve for many years, and no doubt felt keenly their removal from a spot that had so long been home to them. But the Indians, like the white man, must give way before the necessities in the march of civilization. There would never have arisen necessity for this present surrender had Victoria remained as it was when this reserve was allotted by Sir James Douglas. But although the Indians were giving up a reserve dear to them for many sentimental reasons, they were not giving it up without substantial compensating advantages. They were obtaining a new reserve, larger and even more beautiful and advantageous, in fact one of the most beautiful spots on the Pacific coast, where the land offered greater facilities for gardens, for orchards and for the cultivation of the necessities of life. The Indians had also been given a very large sum of money for each family. He strongly and emphatically advised them to take good care of this money. There would be many schemes devised by the unscrupulous to induce them to part with it, and as to all these he advised the tribesmen to be very wary. Especially should they beware of the white man who might come to them offering liquor. Whenever a white man gave an Indian liquor there was sure to be something that Indian had that the white desired to possess himself of. He hoped that with their abundant means to do so, the Indians would now on their new reserve put up good homes, homes to cost at least $1,000 in each case, and in this connection he asked a voluntarily promise to do so from the members of the band. If they took the course advised, made themselves good homes, lived industriously and carefully, they would prove a credit to themselves and an example to the white race.

As to the pledge as to building desired by the inspector, twenty-eight of the twenty-nine family heads present promptly gave it, the twenty-ninth explaining that he was moving away.

The chief explained that the majority proposed expending more than the $1,000 mentioned, as he took it, as a minimum. Some would spend on their new homes $1,400, $1,500 or even $2,000.

"Mines has already cost me $1,600," observed Charlie Comiah.

Chief Cooper's Address

Courteously apologizing to Premier McBride, Mr. Ditchburn and the other representatives of government present for so doing, Chief Cooper next proceeded to address his people in their own tongue and at length, the burden of his remarks being with regard (it was subsequently learned) to the irrationality and impossibility of the contentions advanced by the deputation of Indian headmen to whch Willie Jack had alluded. Chief Cooper broke into English in his peroration.

"When did we have to go to these others for permit or advice as to what we shall do?" he urged eloquently. "We are the Songhees people and we can handle our own affairs." He urged his people to comport themselves soberly, industriously and in a manner to bring respect for and confidence in the tribe.

Next addressing Premier McBride, Chief Cooper referred with dramatic gesture and very considerable native eloquence to the sentiments of his people on leaving the spot so long accounted their home. He recalled the early days, "when our people lived on the other side of the harbor, and did not wear such clothes as we are wearing now—when Freezie's and Jimmy George's grandfathers were chiefs in the land, and Sir James Douglas come, moving the Indians over the harbor and telling them 'this is to be your new home, and here you are to remain from generation to generation'." As for the present bargain, he wished it to be noted that it was not solicited by the Indians. The proposition had been advanced by the whites, and the Indians had decided that it would be a good idea to accept, as the old people would then be well provided for. This was how the surrender had really been brought about. He, too, had come to the conclusion that, surrounded by the whites as under past conditions, the Indian could not live his life, and he might therefore as well agree to the terms proposed, which were both fair and generous.

Mr. McBride's Kindness

In concluding, he wished especially to put on record his great appreciation of what Premier McBride had done for the Indians, and of the manner in which it had been done. It was not every Indian tribe in British Columbia that received so much money as the Songhees had received. He appreciated, too, the action of the Dominion in allowing the Songhees as men to transact this business for themselves and receive the money. He was proud to be the chief of a tribe worthy of such confidence. He and his people would never forget Premier McBride and his kindness, and he would throughout the native people of the province tell of how the Premier had treated the Songhees—the Premier himself being, he was glad to know, "one of our Native Sons too."

Indian Agent Robertson also briefly and tactfully felicitated all present upon the consummation of the arrangement happily concluding the long-in-evidence Songhees reserve question, although he almost felt that he had lost his occupation. (Laughter.) The Songhees, he said, was entitled to recognition as a champion bargainer, and in this case the Songhees was fortunate in having had to do with one of the very best Provincial Premiers Canada had ever known. He hoped the Indians would take good care of their money—learn the advantage of the savings bank—so use their new opportunities that they would bring happiness and blessings. From this day, they must remember, the old reserve became the property of the Government, their own home becoming the beautiful reserve on Esquimalt harbor, removed from the temptations of too near contact with city and particularly waterfront civilization.

Friendship on All Hands

Premier McBride replied briefly but feelingly to Chief Cooper's kindly remarks, expressing his pleasure to learn that the members of the tribe were planning to secure good and comfortable homes for themselves and use prudently the money that had become theirs. It was doubtful if a more prosperous community could be found in all Canada. He was glad, too, that these negotiations had terminated with such a feeling of good friendship on all hands. He could not, as a Minister of the King, have done otherwise than acted toward the Songhees fairly, honorably, frankly—as man to man. Especially did he commend to Chief Cooper and his councillors the provision of every comfort for the older people of the tribe in their declining years. The Premier referred lightly and gracefully to his experience with and of the Indians from boyhood, and closed with appreciative reference to the part played in the concluded negotiations by Chief Cooper, his councillors and the tribesmen, Mrs. Gunnion, Inspector Ditchburn and Mr. Robertson, of the Indian Department, and behind them Sir Wilfrid Laurier, "that great chieftain at Ottawa," Mr. Templeman and others.

At the conclusion of the Premier's brief address a touching incident, exemplifying the gratitude which the old people of the Songhees band feel towards Chief Cooper, occurred. Mrs. Gunnion walked across the schoolroom floor to the chief, and shaking his hand, in tones tremulous with emotion, said: "We thank you very, very much. We deeply appreciate, indeed, all you have done for us."

The proceedings concluded with votes of thanks to Chief Cooper and Mrs. Gunnion, the latter of whom had given her services as interpreter—services which were thoroughly appreciated. At 7 o'clock last evening the Songhees reserve became once again—after half a century—the property of the crown in British Columbia. Rousing cheers were given for the King and Premier McBride.

NEW COAL COMPANY

British Pacific Prepares to Exploit Measures on Graham Island.

Much interest is being evinced in the prospective mining operations of the British Pacific Coal Co., Ltd., a Vancouver corporation owning 8,320 acres of coal lands near Skidegate, at the south end of Graham island, one of the Queen Charlotte group. The property was recently examined by Mr. Alex. Faulds, M. E., who is regarded as one of the best coal experts in Western Canada. His report is of a most favorable character.

Mr. Faulds devoted a fortnight to a detailed examination of the various outcrops. He estimated that one seam six feet in thickness would be capable of producing 36,000,000 tons of coal or a daily output of 1,000 tons for 144 years. Less than $50,000, he says, will be required to construct a wharf, build a railway and develop the mine capable of producing on the above estimated basis. The coal is a semi-anthracite, and is adapted for coking, as well as for steaming and domestic purposes. A series of analyses shows that it runs over 85 per cent. in fixed carbon, the ash and volatile contents being very low. Six seams, including one twelve feet in thickness, have been proven to traverse the property. Mr. Faulds reported that the mine could be placed on a shipping basis in less than six months.

The output of coal and coke in British Columbia which is of the utmost importance, is not increasing as rapidly as the market demands. These demands are increasing yearly in excess of the supply, thereby maintaining regular prices with occasional advances, so that if the output goes on increasing rapidly for many years, it will still find an open market. San Francisco imports 200,000 tons annually from Australia, British Columbia and Japan. With over thirty steamers trading in the Orient and to Australia, with Alaska practically at the door, and with the recent advent of the new fleet of steamers on the coast of the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway Company, excellent markets are assured for several thousand tons daily.

TARIFF CHANGES TO GO FURTHER

Democratic Leaders in House, Encouraged by Success, will Endeavor to Revise Agricultural Schedule

WASHINGTON, April 13.—Encouraged by the smooth working of their legislative machine, which today began to grind, Democratic leaders of the House planned to extend their tariff revision programme.

Until now the only tariff tinkering determined upon included Canadian reciprocity, the free list to benefit farmers opposed to the reciprocity bill as it stands, and the wool and cotton schedules, but now it has been determined to revise the agricultural schedule.

Election of Senators

The House of Representatives by a vote of 296 to 160 late today passed the Rucker resolution, proposing a constitutional amendment for the direct election of U. S. Senators. This is the first of the Democratic measures passed by the House. It went through without modification and with a speed that brought protests from the Republicans.

The resolution, as the House approved it, is in the form of the Borah resolution reported out of the senate judiciary committee in the closing days of the last congress.

Republican opposition to the Rucker resolution in the House was based on the fact that it did not contain the changes afterwards made in the fight in the senate, which assured congress continued control over elections in the several states.

After six hours of debate, in which many demands were made for this change in the resolution, all but fifteen Republicans voted for the resolution. The majority of them had stated during the debate that they would support the resolution because convinced the public wanted such a constitutional amendment submitted to the country as quickly as possible.

The Republican insurgents, led by Representatives Lenroot and Cooper of Wisconsin, forced a record vote on the final passage of the resolution.

The House voted overwhelmingly in favor of the measure when Speaker Clark called for the viva voce vote, but the insurgents demanded a roll call in order to put the House on record. The Democrats quickly seconded this demand.

The Wool Schedule

Revision of the wool schedule of the Payne-Aldrich tariff law, accepted as forming part of the programme of the Democratic House of Representatives, will have to be undertaken without the assistance of the tariff board.

It was announced today, following the first full meeting of the House committee on ways and means, that the tariff board is not yet in a position to furnish information on the wool schedule.

The board has informed Chairman Underwood that it has unanimously decided that submission of the incomplete data on wool growing, now in its possession, would be misleading and unfair to the board. The work of inquiry into the cost of production of domestic wool has been practically completed for the country east of the Mississippi, but reports from Texas, Minnesota, Arizona, Utah, Mexico, Idaho and Wyoming are lacking.

Government Buys Launch.

The provincial government has bought the steam launch Kiora for the use of the timber department for patrolling the coast to prevent depredations on crown timber lands. The department has in addition to the Kiora the Allanhee and the R. J. Skinner, both being used for this work. The Kiora will patrol the east coast of the Gulf of Georgia, the Allanhee the coast of Vancouver Island and the R. J. Skinner the coast of northern British Columbia. The duties of these vessels are the general inspection and prevention of trespass on crown lands, the enforcing of the license law, the general inspection of hand loggers' licenses and transportation of government scalers.

Esquimalt Incorporation.

A meeting of the property owners of Esquimalt was held last evening at the Lampson Street School to discuss the advisability of incorporation. At the request of those present Hon. C. E. Pooley took the chair and Mr. A. B. Ellis acted as secretary. The report of the committee appointed to make inquiries from other municipalities was read, and a motion was made that it was advisable for that part of Esquimalt district which is bounded by the city of Victoria, the Indian reservation and the sea should be created into a municipality. A discussion ensued which lasted over two hours. An amendment was moved setting forth that the time was not ripe for incorporation. On a vote being taken 13 voted for the amendment and 18 against it, and the original motion was then carried by a vote of 18 to 12. A petition was presented for signature by those present and it will be circulated for signatures.

Fights Menagerie Regulations.

Argument in the case of Mr. J. G. French, proprietor of French's menagerie, against the Municipality of South Saanich in which he seeks to have declared invalid the by-law regulating the keeping of wild animals within the confines of the municipality will be heard on the 21st inst. Mr. A. E. McPhillips yesterday morning appeared before Mr. Justice Murphy, of the Supreme Court, and read an affidavit of the plaintiff in which it is set forth that to comply with the municipal law the plaintiff would have to obtain premises two miles square, something it is impossible to do; that the plaintiff has $20,000 invested in wild animals, and $5,000 in domestic animals; that the objection against the presence of the menagerie comes from real estate owners who desire to sub-divide their property; that a wild animal trainer is employed and that there are among other animals six lions, two tigers, seven leopards and two pumas.

New Commercial Companies.

The present week has produced the usual grist of new commercial companies, the incorporation under the British Columbia act of the following having just been announced: Burrard Cigar company, Canadian-American Corporation, limited, Co-operative Italian association, Hat Pin Protector company, limited, MacArthur & MacMillan, limited, Macdonald Godson company, limited, Omineca Mines, limited, non-personal liability; Seymour Arm Fruit Lands, limited, Steamboat Prospecting company, limited, non-personal liability; Thomas Foster & Co., limited and Yellowhead Mines & Land Investment company, limited. The extra-provincial companies recently registered or licensed include the Oxford Foundry & Machine company, limited, Sherbrooke Machinery company, limited, Standard Life Assurance company, Western Canada Accident & Guarantee company, H. K. Mulford company and Interstate Rubber company.

Provincial Appointments.

Among provincial appointments noted in the current issue of the Gazette are those of Eric Erikson of Malakwa and Albert William Dick of Monte Creek as justices of the peace; A. E. Tulk and N. V. Gilling, both of Vancouver, as notaries public; C. J. Fagan, M. B., secretary of the provincial board of health, as registrar of births, deaths and marriages for the province; Miss Emma Price to be clerk in the printing office at Victoria, this appointment dating from February 1, 1908; Andrew Maturakey of Michel to be secretary to the Michel board of miners examiners at Michel colliery in the place of John Mason, resigned; John Johnstone, treasurer of Vancouver City, to be a deputy collector of the Vancouver assessment district for the purpose of collecting the taxes, under the assessment rolls and rural school district rolls of Hastings townsite and D. L. 301 for the year 1911. The resignations have been accepted of Dr. A. W. Bawgall of Kaslo as coroner and William Oliver of Skidegate as a stipendiary magistrate for the county of Vancouver.

Shopping Week

On Monday, March 27, there came to fruition a movement which was of signal importance in the development of British manufactures. The All-British shopping week, which started on that day, and continued to the end of the week was intended to bring before the public in the most striking form what the home country and the overseas dominions can do. There was evidence of great advance in many directions hitherto entirely given up to the foreigner, or nearly so; whilst the patriotism of the purchaser did not involve, as has too often been the case, any pecuniary sacrifice. It has been made clear that the United Kingdom and the British Empire between them can offer wares equal in every respect to those which come from other costumes, and this was true of the details as of the main features. We all know that in cotton manufactures, and also in wool and its many products, England can easily hold her own against any competitors, but hitherto we have been sceptical as to the varieties of color and texture, as well as the possibility of getting a dainty result from our home manufactures.

The All-British shopping week has changed all this. It has demonstrated effectively that without going outside the borders of the Empire, almost every conceivable need can be satisfied.

Two divisions were made: Goods marked "All British," sold as such could be relied upon as being made from British materials (including the products of the Dominions overseas, by British labor. Whilst the words "Mainly British" were applied to goods in which at least 50 per cent. of the cost of production (including, of course, the ram material) were British.

Last year a similar experiment on a smaller scale was made at Ealing, London, W., and the success there achieved led to a movement for an "All-British shopping week in London. The scheme commended itself to the heads of some of the great West End firms, and they agreed to join the executive committee, which has been working for some months. The chairman of the committee at the meeting of the executive committee mentioned that very definite instructions had been given on the subject of proper descriptions of goods to all shop assistants in all firms to obviate all misapprehension as well as remove the possibility of any criticism either at home or abroad. The executive committee is much to be congratulated on the care it has taken to avoid the risk of misrepresentation, for on the success of the movement much depended. And especially the goodwill of the public. The committee recognising how much was at stake acted as patriotic citizens, and for seeing business men in the arrangements. One most interesting feature was the display of products from a town or district. Thus Bedford, the centre of the woollen industry was brought well before the notice of the public, and was at the Brussels exhibition last year, whilst Nottingham and Leicester, the great hosiery districts, had their full share of recognition.

All the varieties of silk goods shown during the All-British shopping week, it is safe to predict surprised many people, who had come to think the silk trade was extinct in England until the gracious example of Queen Mary brought to their notice the fact that English silk is still produced, not only in considerable quantity, but with much beauty of design and finish.

In other respects the movement will educates and interest all who had the opportunity of seeing the display at each firm's premises. It is still necessary to utilise foreign help for the finishing and dyeing of curtain fabrics, but as a result of this movement it is certain that British manufacturers, seeing what is lacking in their organisation, will take steps to supply the deficiency, and will be ready ere another spring comes round to do what at present is done by their rivals. From the movement all political bias and all anti-foreign prejudice were carefully excluded. All that was sought was to show the British public in concrete and attractive form what their own country is capable of in many unsuspected directions, a lesson of which apparently they have long been in need.

PROVINCIAL NEWS

The rate of pay for laborers on government works in the Columbia district has this year been increased to $3 per day.

A novelty in defence for forgery has been presented in the trial of Samuel Taylor at Vancouver, his counsel urging that Taylor was irresponsible for his actions as he was suffering from thromatic neurosis at the time the forgeries were committed.

Tired of trying to live without any money, after having contracted the habit of free spending during more prosperous days, Anton Kellemit attempted to commit suicide at Vancouver a day or so ago by cutting his throat. The doctors say he will recover.

Fines aggregating $1,800 were collected at Hazelton last week as the result of a raid on a blind pig operating in that locality.

Daniel Robinson, a rancher living near Gutelius, broke his leg recently while building a gate. He dragged himself half a mile to his home, and lay in agony forty-two hours before help arrived. He declared that his sufferings were so intense that if some one had not come he would have shot himself within the next few moments.

The business office and headquarters of the Mountain Lumbermen's association has been removed from Nelson to Calgary.

H. Simon, a laborer, committeed suicide by cutting his throat on board the steamer Camosun during the last voyage of that vessel from Stewart to Vancouver.

J. N. Kellie has left Revelstoke to confer with his associates in Montreal in connection with a deal for the sale of timber limits in the Fraser River valley, aggregating over one million dollars in value.

A $200,000 plant for the manufacture of nuts, bolts fishplates and other railroad materials, will shortly be erected at Port Mann by an English and Scotch syndicate. At the outset the plant will employ one hundred men.

New Cunard Service

The Cunard steamship line has inaugurated a new service between Canada and Southampton and London. The fares are among the lowest of any line in Canada and the weekly service will be maintained by the fine, new steamers Ascania, Ausonia, and Albania, all built by the builders of the famous Mauretania. They are equipped with the Marconi system of wireless telegraphy and submarine signalling apparatus and are of the most modern type of steamers in the world.

STORM VICTIMS ARE INCREASING

Tornado Belt Reports More Destruction of Life and Property—St. Louis and Smaller Places Visited

KANSAS CITY, April 13.—Although the weather is fair tonight through the tornado-swept districts of Kansas, Oklahoma, Western Missouri and Northern Arkansas, the major portion of the telephone and telegraph wires are still down and only meagre reports of the death and destruction wrought by the storm yesterday are obtainable, it will be several days before a complete list can be obtained.

It now appears that at least twenty persons were killed.

The names of thirteen of the dead are known. Four dead, reported from Plummerville, Ark., are without names. The list of injured will number more than a hundred. Several who were reported killed last night proved today to be among the injured. Of the injured few are thought to be seriously hurt.

The monetary loss in Kansas alone is estimated to be in excess of $600,000. It is thought the damage in other sections will bring the total to more than $1,000,000.

Of all the stricken cities, Big Heart, Okla., suffered the greatest damage. Three persons were killed and sixty injured, thirty-eight fatally. At first it was reported eight persons were killed.

More Fatalities

ST. LOUIS, April 13.—Four negroes are known to be dead, a number injured, one seriously, and three are missing, following a tornado which wrecked the town of Valles Mines, Mo., forty miles southwest of here, at 2 o'clock this afternoon.

The four negroe swere killed when the Valles Mines postoffice and a general store crashed in on them. Postmaster Bunce, who is believed to have been the only white person in the place, was taken from the debris half an hour after the storm. He is said to be dying at his home.

News of the storm which damaged farm property, tore up trees, paralyzed wire communication and blocked railroads was first received at Festus, Mo., when a train raced over the rails of the Mississippi River & Bonne Terre railroad from Valles Mines, carrying terrified passengers out of the danger zone. are reported dead and a score injured at Cadet, Mo., a town of 600 inhabitants, twelve miles south of here, as the result of a tornado which practically demolished the town. Wires are down in every direction and a creek between this place and the stricken town is out of its banks, cutting off assistance from here.

A terrific wind, hail and thunderstorm, accompanied by a heavy downpour of rain, swept over this city late this afternoon, causing many thousands of dollars damage and indirectly three deaths.

The dead include a driver of a team of mules, who with his mules were electrocuted by running into a live wire, a woman, who succumbed to fright and another woman was killed in a runaway.

Houses were blown down in the outskirts of the city and in the extreme north end and an eight-story elevator containing one million bushels of wheat valued at $750,000 was blown into the Mississippi river. Windows in the Bryan Hill and John Marshall public schools and two churches were broken by the wind and hail.

TRIBAL JUSTICE

How Creston Valley Indians Punished Member of Band for Forgery.

Where the long arm of British law has failed to reach an evildoer, the tribal law of the Creston valley Indians of East Kootenay has been asserted effectually, and Joe Goodman—a living demonstration of the inappropriateness of some names—has discovered that forgery is an offence not lightly to be passed over. Joe is a Christianized Indian, educated at the Creston Mission, 21 years of age. Last week he forged and cashed at Port Hill a cheque on a Spokane bank for $72 purporting to be signed by Rev. Father Beck. He also had another bogus cheque bearing the spurious signature of Gleen Wisler, of Creston, which he endeavored unsuccessfully to negotiate.

As Port Hill is just across the international border, the provincial police found it impossible to take action against the over-civilized young Siwash, and, he was just congratulating himself on his escape, when he was seized and brought before the council of his tribe. The case was debated and weighed in all its phases by the indignant councillors, and it was finally ordered that the offender, who had brought disgrace upon the tribe, should be bound with wire to a tree, and there left without food or shelter for seven days, at the expiry of that time receiving a flogging. Later, he would be required to restore the full amount of the cheque, which meantime the tribe made good to the storekeeper with whom it had been negotiated.

The sentence was sternly carried out, the young Indian being bound to a stake with hay-bale wire for the prescribed seven days, and publicly and soundly thrashed before the tribe by his own father, Chief Abel, before being taken down. The young Indian will fully recover, although his punishment was exceptionally drastic.