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SALMON REGULATIONS NOT STRICT ENOUGH

John P. Babcock Returns From Trip to Headwaters of the Fraser

(From Wednesday's Daily)

John P. Babcock returned on Monday night from his annual trip to the headwaters of the Fraser, whither he goes each year to observe the salmon as they reach the spawning beds. He gives an interesting account of his observations from which it will be seen that while the catch of salmon this year has been greater than was expected, or appears to be usual in an "off" year, yet the number of fish which reached the spawning grounds was most disappointing, and the hatcheries secured but a meagre million of eggs for propagation purposes.

From this Mr. Babcock draws the conclusion that the regulations at present in force are not sufficiently restrictive if the supply of salmon is to be kept up. Discussing the question with a Colonist reporter yesterday, Mr. Babcock said:

"I returned from the headwaters of the Fraser yesterday in order to clean up the files of the Department, after which I shall go back to the river for a time. I went up the river, as I do every year, to ascertain as nearly as possible, the number of sockeye which reached the spawning grounds. The number which successfully evaded the traps and nets and gained access to the extreme headwaters of the Fraser river this year was greater than in any "off year" since I have been familiar with the conditions. At Fort George, the Indians captured more in one night this last August than they caught all the season last year. The run to Chilcot lake was most promising. The Chilcotin Indians were very successful. They took over 20,000 with their dip nets in August. They have not taken so many in any year except 1905, in the last seven years. Last year and in 1906 they caught but a few hundred. They had good fishing this year for fully two weeks.

Indians Use Dip-Nets

"The Chilcotin and Fort George Indians capture their salmon with the dip-nets commonly used by all the Indians along the Fraser and Thompson rivers. The method is a good one, though they take only a small number of those which pass up.

"The Fraser was very high in July and early August, and as the Indians at Fort George began to catch sockeye as early as August 6, it would appear that the salmon which reached there must have entered the lower river early. Strange to say, the sockeye do not appear to have entered the Quesnel lake section this year. Very few reached the dam at the outlet of Quesnel lake and none were observed in the tributaries of that great lake. Fort George is, as you know north of the confluence of the Quesnel and the Fraser, some 90 miles, and the Chilcotin river enters the Fraser some 100 miles south of the Quesnel. It is therefore a matter of note that the run to the Quesnel was nil, while the numbers which entered the Chilcotin and those noted at Fort George was much greater than is usual in an off year.

Sockeye Has Strange Ways

"It is one of the many strange and unaccountable characteristics of the sockeyes' migrations, why they go to one lake fed stream and not to another is one of those things "no fellow can seemingly find out." The run to Seton and Shuswap lakes was very poor, no better than the run of last year. The take of sockeye eggs at both the hatcheries at Seton and Shuswap lakes is under a million, and there is little or no prospect of increasing the number this year.

"The run to the Birkerhead appears to be better than last year, but the season is not yet over there and later and final returns may show no very material change over the results of last season though it is expected that they will. The early take at Harrison does not appear to have been as large as last year at this time. October and November are the two best months on the Harrison and as that section has never failed to make an excellent showing 'the fall take' is expected to be large.

Regulations Insufficient

"Considering that the catch in both the Sound and the gulf and lower Fraser was much greater this year than last, and even better than four years ago, and that the regulations on the Fraser were more restrictive this year than last, the run to the spawning beds is most disappointing. It would appear that the new regulations were not as drastic as has been charged, that they are not yet sufficiently restrictive to insure the perpetuation of the industry, that we are still catching too many fish and must adopt additional measures to insure the stocking of the spawning beds."

THANKS FROM FERNIE

Relief Fund Committee Expresses Its Appreciation of Victoria's Donation

The Fernie district fire relief committee has written the Victoria city council, expressing its gratitude for the aid extended by this city to the sufferers in the recent conflagration. At last night's meeting of the city council the following resolution recently passed by the executive of the relief committee was read:

"Moved by W. R. Ross, seconded by Thomas Biggs.

"The executive committee of the Fernie district fire relief fund wishes to record its heartfelt gratitude for the generous donation made by the citizens of Victoria to the relief fund. We wish to assure our friends that their spontaneous benevolence has enabled us to relieve much existing distress and suffering and in addition to what has already been done in this way, we can extend to them the pleasing assurance that their generosity will to a large extent protect the sufferers against the rigors of the approaching winter."

Revelstoke Flourishing.

Charles F. Lindmark, mayor of Revelstoke, is in Victoria. He says that Revelstoke is flourishing, and that the settlement of the C. P. R. strike will make times there even better than ever.

Provincial Art Exhibit

The provincial art exhibit consisting largely of artistic reproductions of portraits and paintings of men and women who in early times helped to make British Columbia is to be shown both in Vancouver and Victoria before it is finally arranged in its permanent home in the parliament buildings. The exhibit attracted a great deal of favorable attention in New Westminster and is now being shown in Vancouver.

PIONEER'S FUNERAL LARGELY ATTENDED

Late Mr. Norris, a Nonagenarian, Was Long a Resident Here

(From Wednesday's Daily)

The funeral of the late William George Norris took place yesterday afternoon from his residence, Fort street, at 2.30 o'clock. The late Mr. Norris, who died on Sunday, had reached the advanced age of 90 years and seven months, and despite it, looked decades younger. He enjoyed splendid health up until a few years of his death.

Born in London, Eng., he came to Canada as a young man, accompanied by his wife and two children. He took up his residence in Toronto, conducting a store there. In the early sixties he was attracted to the West by the news of the activity following the gold discoveries, and coming to Victoria he entered the hardware business, in which he continued for many years, though he retired from business some years ago. Here he has resided to the day of his death. Some seven years ago the death of Mrs. Norris occurred.

Four children survive him, two daughters and two sons, all of whom reside in this city. They are Mrs. C. F. Todd, Mrs. L. G. McQuade, John T. and Frederick Norris.

At the funeral yesterday Rev. P. Jenns, the rector of St. John's church, officated, assisted by the curate, Rev. A. J. Stanley Ard, the latter officiating at the grave. There were many in attendance to do honor to the memory of the aged pioneer, who numbered many friends in the city and district of which he has so long been a resident. The pall-bearers were: C. E. Redfern, Thomas Shotbolt, N. Shakespeare, George Ellory, P. R. Brown and Charles Hayward.

PREMIER TO CAMPAIGN

Hon. Richard McBride Makes Arrangements to Address a Number of Meetings

Premier McBride intends taking an active part in the forthcoming campaign although the dates for the meeting which he will address are not all fixed as yet. On Wednesday of next week he will speak at Ladysmith, and at Nanaimo on Friday, as he has to be in Vancouver on Thursday to open the new Sailors' Home there.

Mr. McBride intends to address some meetings in Victoria later on, but arrangements have not yet been completed. He will also speak at Chilliwack and other points in the New Westminster electoral district.

MRS. DUNSMUIR'S WILL WAS READ YESTERDAY

Daughters Named Executors—Various Legacies Are Made

(From Wednesday's Daily)

Those entrusted with the task of reading the will of the late Joan Olive Dunsmuir performed that duty yesterday morning at 11 o'clock.

Conditional sums in cash are bequeathed to Mrs. William Charles, Mrs. Harvey Coombe, Ellen and Annie Ruth, John Bryden, sr., Miss Olive Bryden, Mrs. G. A. Kirk, and her daughter Betty, Mrs. Sumner (sister of Mrs. Kirk), and J. S. Harvey. Subject to the above legacies, the whole of the estate, which is valued at between $800,000 and $900,000, is divided into five equal shares between Mrs. H. Croft, Mrs. H. Burroughs, Lady Musgrave, Mrs. A. Gough Calthorpe, and Mrs. R. S. Chaplin, Mrs. Dunsmuir's daughters who are the executors. The management of the estate will continue under the supervision of R. T. Elliott, K.C., and J. S. H. Matson.

HIGH PRESSURE PIPES ARE NOW ARRIVING

First Shipment Received From the Old Country—Pump Tenders

(From Wednesday's Daily)

The first shipments of pipes for the salt water high pressure system have arrived here from the Stanton Iron Works, Nottingham, England, where the pipes for the waterworks distribution system were also made. Since the work on the installation of the high pressure system was inaugurated some time ago by the laying of the eight inch main on Broughton street, from Douglas street to Wharf street, and the twelve inch main on Government street, from Herald street to Johnson street, the necessary pipe has been borrowed from the waterworks supply, but now that the supply for the high pressure system is arriving more rapid work on the laying of the grid iron system for fire protection will be made.

Yesterday the city purchasing agent and the city electrician were busy figuring out the various tenders for the electric and steam pumps to be installed for the high pressure system. These tenders have still to be considered by the fire wardens next Friday evening when the report will be submitted to the city council and the contract will be let. The tenders are as follows: Findley, Durham & Brodie, electric pump, $8,128, steam pump, $9,054; Hinton Electric company, $12,500, steam, $11,800; Vancouver Engineering company, electric $10,000, steam $17,900; Canadian General Electric company, electric $12,150, steam $12,450, with a tender for steam turbine pump of $19,150; W. G. Winterburn, electric $8,100, steam $17,200, with tender for steam turbine $16,000; R. P. Rithet & Co., electric $10,525, steam $15,332, with alternate tender of $9,945 and $10,645 respectively; Perry Machine company, Seattle, electric $9,228, steam $13,151.63.

The estimate of cost for the duplicate system of pumps was in the neighborhood of $18,000, but the above tenders indicate that the cost is likely to exceed that figure.

D. H. Bale has been awarded the contract for a modern two-storey dwelling for T. A. Cairns to be erected on Niagara street.

MAY MAKE GUNS FOR MEXICO REPUBLIC

J. T. Shadforth to Visit Southern Country in Response to Request

That the government of Mexico intends to manufacture modern ordnance for its coast defences and army is the belief of an expert now in Victoria, J. T. Shadforth, organizer for the Northern Iron and Steel Corporation who is at the Driard hotel, has been asked by officials of the Mexican government to proceed to Mexico city to consult with them regarding the establishment of a steel plant, primarily intended for the manufacture of ordnance. Mr. Shadforth is an expert on ordnance and possesses certain secrets of manufacture of modern guns. He said yesterday that he had recently returned from Mexico and was convinced that the only possible competitor British Columbia would have with regard to being the location of and iron and steel plant would be lower California, but, British Columbia being also supplied with coal has the most advantages. Although reticent on the subject Mr. Shadforth admitted that he had been approached by officials of the Mexican government with the request that he proceed to Mexico to consult with them on the possibilities of steel manufacture and that every inducement will be given him on behalf of his underwriters by way of concessions of a valuable nature. He is anxious to locate a plant in British Columbia.

RALPH SMITH TAKES COMOX RIFLE RANGES

Captain of H.M.S. Shearwater Finds Them Gone and He Wires to Ottawa

(From Wednesday's Daily)

A small but typical instance of the way in which the Liberal government and its henchmen look upon all public property as intended to be used solely with the idea of extracting the greatest political advantage therefrom has just come to light in a sample of Ralph Smith's highhanded methods.

The rifle ranges have been stationed at Comox for many years. Also they are Imperial and not Canadian property. However, it seems that Ralph Smith thought that they would like them at Nanaimo, and so he ordered them to be moved down there. Quite recently the Shearwater went up to Comox for her musketry practice, and found that the ranges had disappeared. The captain of the Shearwater is interested in musketry, but not at all in politics, so he was very angry when he found where and how they had been removed.

He immediately telegraphed Ottawa, and the wires were kept hot for a while. The result was that the Dominion government agreed to replace the ranges, either with the original ones or new ones. So the Shearwater will after a while get her musketry practice, and as election time is so close, it is a fair bet that Nanaimo will keep her stolen ranges.

English Fruit Exhibit.

R. M. Palmer, deputy minister of agriculture, leaves Vancouver today with part of the fruit shipments for the English fall fairs. A special cold storage car has been hitched on to an express to ensure speed of transit. He goes first to Sicamous, where the Okanagan shipments will be picked up, and from there straight through. W. E. Scott of Ganges Harbor goes as Mr. Palmer's assistant, and Mrs. Palmer will also accompany her husband.

A particularly attractive display of Wealthy and King apples, with a sample of late peaches from the orchard of Mr. Peat, at Colwood, is displayed in the windows of Day & Boggs, Fort street. The apples have quite as much color as any shown from other parts of the province, and prove how suitable the Colwood district is for choice fruit growing.

WIRELESS STATIONS ARE POSTPONED FOR SEASON

Col. Anderson Says No Work Will Be Done at Prince Rupert and Queen Charlottes This Year

On his return from the north Col. W. P. Anderson, chief engineer of the marine department, Ottawa, definitely announced that the extension of the government wireless stations to Prince Rupert and the Queen Charlotte islands had been postponed until next year. The colonel expected the various aids to navigation including foghorns, lighthouses and gas buoys. On his return he will make various recommendations for further improvements for presentation to the lighthouse board, of which he is a member. A very thorough examination of Brown and Edye passages, forming approaches to Prince Rupert, was made. These passages will only be used when Prince Rupert has deep-draught vessels plying to the Orient. There is now a gas buoy outside Brown passage. All the approaches to Prince Rupert have been charted and the maps will be available for navigators early in the spring. The work will be gradually extended south.

The chief engineer added that the recharting of the Queen Charlottes was also urgent owing to the inaccuracy of former and incomplete surveys and owing to the rapid development of the islands.

LIGHTKEEPERS CHANGED

William Thompson, of Ucluelet, Replaces Thomas Patterson at Cape Beale

Several changes were recently made in the personnel of the lightkeepers of the west coast of Vancouver island following the resignation of Thomas Patterson, of Cape Beale, who has taken up his residence at Alberni. William Thompson, who was transferred from the station at Ucluelet, was given charge of the Cape Beale light. W. J. Daykin, the veteran lightkeeper of the Carmanah point light, remains at that post. H. J. Hillier, who formerly held the station at Sechart, has been transferred to Ucluelet to take the place vacated by William Thompson, while Mr. Hillier's brother has taken his place at Sechart.

LUMBERMEN DISCUSS DEMANDS OF INDUSTRY

Large and Influential Deputation Have Conference With Ministers

(From Wednesday's Daily)

A large and influential deputation of men interested in the lumber industry called at the parliament buildings yesterday and had a prolonged interview with the Hon. Richard McBride and the Hon. F. J. Fulton, K.C. Those present included representatives of the Mountain Lumber Manufacturers' association, with headquarters at Nelson, as well as a number of coast men.

The object of the delegation was to lay the views of those engaged in the lumber industry before the government on various points on which they hope fresh legislation will be introduced by the government at the forthcoming session of parliament. The subjects discussed included the question of royalty, tenure and fire protection. The holders of timber licenses are, it is understood, desirous that some certain method be provided whereby they can be assured that the uncut timber lands will not be forfeit to the government at the end of twenty years, contending that if some such arrangement is not provided there will be a great deal of slashing towards the end of the time. The result, they claim, will be that the timber will be culled and the finest thrown on the market for what it will fetch, and as a consequence the price will be demoralized, the government will lose large stumpage dues and all concerned will lose money. The amount of timber now held under license greatly exceeds the quantity likely to be required by the trade during the next twenty years.

The government is giving the whole matter careful consideration, and the views presented yesterday were received with attention. No announcement of policy in this regard is to be expected for some time.

Among those present were C. F. Lindmark, of Revelstoke, Mr. Lachmund, P. Lund, W. A. Anstey and E. P. Bremner, of Vancouver.

RAILWAY COMPANY TO AMEND ITS DEFENSE

Latest Development in Litigation Between City and V. & S. Railway

(From Wednesday's Daily)

The litigation between the city of Victoria and the Victoria Terminal & Sidney railway, in which the city is seeking to terminate its agreement with the company on the ground of non-performance of contract, came up again in chambers yesterday before Chief Justice Hunter. The matter had been adjourned for a week to enable Fred Peters, K. C., to communicate with his principals. He applied yesterday for leave to amend his statement of defense, saying that Mr. MacNeill, of Vancouver, had so instructed him. The statement of defense as it stood had been drafted by Joseph Martin, K. C., who was no longer engaged in the case. Mr. Peters referred to the length of time that the suit had been pending as a reason why no objection should be made to allowing him a week for this purpose.

"The suit is only taking the course of every Victoria suit," remarked the Chief Justice. "It is only in the ordinary course of practice. It always takes them two years here to bring a case to trial."

For the city, W. J. Taylor, K. C., objected strongly to the delay of a week. There had been sufficient delay, and he did not see why the issue he wanted could not be ordered trial at once. The city wanted to know what legal effect on the agreement the omission to run the ferry continuously as agreed upon would have. Both the president and the vice-president of the road had admitted that the ferry had been discontinued.

His Lohrship thought that the pleadings needed amending, and that a week was not too long in view of the fact that Vancouver had to be communicated with. It was pointed out that in a week's time His Lordship would be in Vancouver, where he will preside over the assizes. The Chief Justice also remarked that the next month would be taken up with the court of appeal there, and that consequently the matter might be postponed indefinitely. Acordingly he ordered that a week be given to amend the pleadings, and that if it should then appear that the discontinuance of the ferry was not specifically admitted in the revised statement of defense, that that issue of fact be determined without the necessity of a fresh application to him.

The application for a mandamus against the city, asked for by Lee Mong Kow, who has been refused a permit by the building inspector to erect a one-story building within the fire limits, came up, Mr. Taylor saying that he wanted to cross-examine the applicant on his affidavit. Mr. Moresby said he did not see that a cross-examination was necessary, but of course the city was entitled to cross-examine. Eventually the matter was allowed to stand over for a few days, as it was understood that Lee Mong Kow will be back shortly. He has been in New York on business.

Still Producing Strawberries.

The garden of Mr. Rae of James Bay still continues, despite the lateness of the season, to grow large and excellent strawberries, as is clearly evidenced by a sample of them, which is on exhibition in a Government street merchant's window.

More Permits for Dwellings

Building permits were yesterday issued by the building inspector to H. J. Sullivan for a dwelling to be erected on Bushby street, to cost $1,900; to J. H. McGregor for a dwelling to Pendergast street to cost $1,900, and to George C. Mesher & Company, for two dwellings on Pendergast street, each to cost $1,900.

Re-Wiring the Buildings

The entire lighting system of the parliament buildings is being re-wired with heavier wires. Many new lights are being constantly added and it was found that the wires were becoming overloaded, so new pires are being put in. The work is being done by Hawkins & Hayward, of Yates street.

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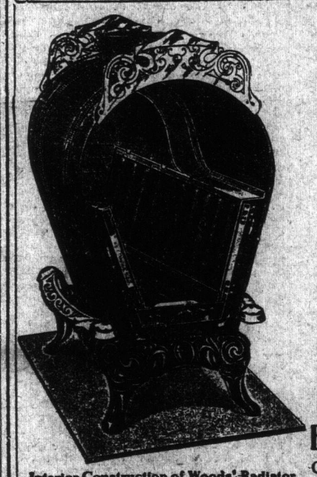

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MANY MATTERS COME BEFORE THE COUNCIL

Sir Thomas Shaughnessy Will Be Present at Board of Trade Banquet

(From Wednesday's Daily)

The council of the Board of Trade met yesterday morning, the president, Mr. Simon Leiser, in the chair, the other members present being Messrs. L. A. Genge, F. A. Pauline, J. J. Shallcross, John Arthbuthnot and J. A. Mara. The secretary, Mr. Elworthy, read letters from Sir Wilfrid Laurier and the Minister of Railways and Canals, acknowledging receipt of the board's resolution urging that the enlargement and the improvement of the Welland canal should be undertaken by the Dominion government.

Mr. Henry E. Reed, director of the A.-Y.-P. Exposition, division of exploitation, wrote the secretary as follows:

Seattle, Wash., Sept. 21, 1908.

Dear Sir,—Many thanks for your good letter of September 17th advising me of your meeting with Hon. Mr. Templeman, Minister of Inland Revenue of the Dominion of Canada. A day or two ago, I received a letter from Mr. Templeman informing me that Canada had accepted our invitation to participate at this exposition, and that in due course I would receive notification to this effect from Hon. Sydney Fisher. We are delighted with the action Canada has taken and in behalf of the exposition I beg to thank you cordially for what you have done to help bring about this much desired result.

Double Mail Service

Mr. Leiser, on the part of the committee which has had in charge the inauguration of a double daily mail service upon the E. and N. Railway, reported that as yet their efforts to secure this greatly desired improvement in mail communication had been ineffectual, and the committee was instructed to keep this matter under consideration.

Mr. Genge, the vice-president, reported that the sub-committee which had been appointed for the purpose had interviewed Capt. Troup, the general superintendent of the B. C. Coast service in reference to the much-needed improvement of the steamer passenger and freight service between this city and New Westminster, as well as other places on the Lower Fraser river, when Capt. Troup informed them that at the present time the C. P. R. and N. Co. did not have at their command a steamer which was suitable for this duty. The committee had subsequently written this official of the company definitely setting out the general character of the service which is necessitated by the commercial requirements of this very important port, and requesting the company to undertake the construction of such a steamer as is needed for these purposes, if no other way presents itself for getting out of the difficulty.

Although no definite capacity is specified it is contended that at the very least two trips a week should be made between Victoria and New Westminster. It is scarcely creditable, although it is perfectly true, that fully twenty years ago more regular steam communication existed between these two ports than is the rule at the present day.

Mr. Genge further stated that he had been present at a conference which was held between the special committee and Mr. A. T. Goward, the local manager of the B.C. Electric Railway Co., in respect to the improvement of the city's tram service, through the increase in the number of the cars, when Mr. Goward had informed them that he had sent in a requisition to the company for additional cars, although he was unable at the moment to say precisely at what date the full number desired would be in commission. It is apprehended, however, in view of past experience, that some months must elapse before the improvement in the service which is intended will be fully secured. Mr. Goward referred during the discussion to the trouble which the company was experiencing in obtaining an adequate supply of power for all its needs. The committee will keep this matter under advisement.

Accepts Invitation.

Sir Thomas Shaughnessy, the president of the C.P.R., who is expected to arrive in this city within a few weeks, upon his annual tour of inspection, yesterday sent the following despatch in reply to the board's invitation to be present at a banquet which it is proposed to hold in his honor:

"Have written on the 30th accepting, but leaving the date open."

A man's anxiety to marry begins to shrink when he discovers that the woman of his choice is willing.