

TERRIBLE PROSPECTS AT COAL CREEK MINES

Fears That Over a Hundred Men Are Killed.

Rescue Parties Working--Some Bodies Recovered.

Poor Telegraph Communication--Details Are Meagre.

As was the case during the Victoria's last celebration, that which marked the visit of the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall and York, the crowds who thronged the streets yesterday morning learned from the bulletin boards that still another terrible mining disaster had occurred in the province. This time it is the mines of the Crown's Nest Pass Coal Co., situated on Coal creek, some five miles back of Fernie, that have suffered. An explosion occurred at 7 o'clock on Thursday night, in what is known as No. 2 mine, which is connected with No. 3, both being ventilated by the same fan and as far as could be ascertained over a hundred men have lost their lives.

those who escaped from No. 3 mine were C. Burrows, James Baker, F. McNeil, C. Dunlop, A. Ferguson, James G. Murray, John Shaw, H. Moonahan, H. Salter and a number of foreigners. The details of bravery were witnessed during the night. The heroic work of a miner named True Weatherby, who time and again entered where men were falling all around him, was particularly noticeable. So far only 10 bodies have been taken from the mine, and several days will elapse before all are recovered.

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THE FIRST REPORT.

Explosion Occurred at Half Past Seven on Thursday Evening.

Fernie, May 23.—A terrible explosion occurred at about 7:30 in No. 2 shaft of the Crown's Nest Pass Coal Co., extending to No. 3 shaft. Many men were working in the mine at the time. The work of rescue is being hurried forward, and assistance from all available sources is being rushed to the rescue. The presence of coal damp added great danger to the rescue.

THE WRECKED MINE.

Workings Were Constantly Inspected and Well Looked After.

Vancover, B. C., May 23.—(Special.) C. H. Hinton says that No. 2 shaft, which was under the supervision of Mr. Archibald Dick, government inspector of mines, who is stationed at Fernie, in a despatch to the Minister of Mines, states that there were 153 men in the mine at the time of the explosion, and that 24 have been accounted for, and five bodies have been taken from the mine. Other reports place the loss of life at 125 and 150.

INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

Mines Were Free From Gas And Well Ventilated According to Mr. Dick.

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COAL CREEK MINES.

I went today to the above-mentioned mines, examined all about the outside and then went in.

NO. 2 MINE.

This mine is worked on the separate split system, viz. high level, East and West districts. Today I went into the high level district, and found the working places and much of the old workings were in good order, and well timbered, although in some places the roof was very bad and full of slips.

THE ACCIDENT.

First Intimation Was a Tremendous Rush of Smoke and Fire.

Fernie, May 23.—(Special.)—One of the worst coal mining disasters in the history of British Columbia occurred at the Coal Creek mines at 7 o'clock last night, when from 125 to 150 men were almost instant death in minutes. The explosion occurred in the depth of No. 2, and not a man of over 100 employed in that mine escaped to tell the tale. From No. 3 workings, which are connected with No. 2, about 21 men escaped.

CANADA IN JAPAN.

The Canadian government will probably hold a special hall at the Osaka exposition in order to exhibit Canadian articles of interest, says the Kobe Herald.

NO. 3 MINE.

April 25.—I went down this

mine today. Here I saw that all the men were working with open lights on their heads. I examined all this mine. There were but few places in the old workings I was in, as well as being in all the working places. The mine was in good order, and well timbered. I did not see any sign of gas in the mine.

FAMILIES IN WANT.

An Appeal for Aid Made Through the Member for the District.

Mr. B. C. Smith, member of the legislature for the district in which the mines are situated, has been making a list of the families of the miners who were killed in the explosion, and is appealing for aid through the member for the district.

RELIEF FUND.

Victoria Will Do Her Share for the Sufferers.

Mr. E. C. Smith, M. P. P. for South Kootenay, had an interview with Mayor Hayslett yesterday, with reference to organizing a relief fund for the sufferers at Fernie. The Mayor had already agreed to contribute \$10,000 to the fund.

OFF FOR FERNIE.

Mr. Robertson, Provincial Mineralogist, Left This Morning For Scene of Disaster.

Mr. E. C. Smith, M. P. P. for East Kootenay, and Mr. W. F. Robertson, provincial mineralogist, left this morning for Fernie, to investigate the cause of the disaster. They will be accompanied by Mr. Robertson, provincial mineralogist.

NATURAL GAS.

Strong Flow Struck Near Tilsonburg, Ontario.

Tilsonburg, Ont., May 20.—A strong flow of natural gas has been struck on the Hawkins farm near here. The flow was sufficiently strong to lift the sinker bar weighing 1,800 lbs.

KOREAN REPRESENTATIVE.

Visiting Montreal Previous to Sailing for London.

Montreal, May 21.—Prince Yi Chai Koh, third son of the Emperor of Korea, and who will represent that monarch at the coronation of the King of the Belgians, left for London today.

SUNK OFF ST. JOHN'S.

Steamer Lily Dais Lost in a Collision.

St. John's, N. B., May 21.—The steamer Lily Dais, of this harbor, last night collided with the schooner M. J. Kelly, and was sunk off the coast of St. John's. The crew of the Lily Dais were rescued, but the schooner M. J. Kelly was lost.

TO FIGHT WHITE PASS.

Line Talked of From Valdes to Eagle City.

A special despatch from Dawson, under Wednesday's date, says: "Manager Edgar Mizner, of the Northern Commercial Co., says his company has an option on the railroad franchise from Valdes to Eagle, and may build a line to fight the White Pass. One thousand acres have been secured as a Tanao townsite. Mizner discredits the report that the White Pass will attempt to get into the lower river shipments. Mizner says it would simply mean passengers and cargo for the White Pass, and that the company might limit the privilege of shipping in bond over the pass in retaliation for the White Pass's charge on the lower river."

WILD CHARGE.

United States Congressman Alleges Transportation Companies Aid Chinese to Enter States.

A despatch from Washington tells of a wild speech by Mr. Shattuck, of Ohio, in the House of Representatives. He alleged that the transportation companies were aiding Chinese to enter the United States.

FOR NORTHERN PORTS.

Steamer Willapa Sails for Nees and the Canneries of Northern Coast.

Steamer Willapa sailed last night for Nees and way ports, and the steamer Danube, due on Sunday, will sail north on Thursday next, both steamers maintaining a weekly service to Nees and way ports.

THE SEA OF LIFE

Woman's voyage of life from the cradle to the grave is too often a tempestuous and painful one, when it should be calm, peaceful and serene.

In countless homes to-day where health and happiness should reign supreme the peculiar weakness and diseases of women are responsible for an atmosphere of hopelessness and despair. This awful condition is due largely to a misunderstanding of the proper manner in which to effect a cure for female troubles of all kinds.

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills

For Pale People

Should be in every home and should be used regularly by every woman who is not perfectly hearty and strong. It should be remembered that these are not purgative pills, but tonic in their nature, acting directly on the blood and the organs involved in woman's diseases, giving immediate relief and speedy cure. They cure in cases of this kind when other medicines are of no avail.

Mrs. Chas. Hoeg, Southampton, N. S., says: "For nine years I have suffered as no woman, unless she has been similarly afflicted, can imagine I could suffer and yet live. Three weeks out of four I would be almost dead. At different times I was under the care of three doctors, but with no permanent benefit. I tried a half dozen bottles of a largely advertised medicine, but had no benefit. I suffered terrible pains there seemed not a particle of blood in my body, my appetite was gone, and death would be a relief. I was advised to try Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, and after much persuasion consented to try them. The terrible pains passed away; new blood seems to course through my veins; activity has returned to my limbs, and I am now as healthy a woman as there is in the place. This relief from suffering and Dr. Williams' Pink Pills and I would strongly urge all who may be afflicted with the ailments that make the life of so many of my sex miserable to give this medicine a fair trial."

There is such a vast difference between this medicine and all other pills that you must be careful to see that the full name "Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People" appears on every box. If you do not find them at your dealers send direct to the Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont., and they will be mailed post paid at 50 cents a box or six boxes for \$2.50.

New Service To the Orient

Arrangements Concluded For the Northern Pacific and Boston Steamship Fleets.

Willapa Sails for Nees—River Steamers Arrive at Dawson City.

(From Friday's Daily.)

Details of the plans of the Boston Steamship company, which will take over the Boston line, which for years has been running between Tacoma and Victoria to the Orient, are given in despatches from Boston. The company will operate the new steamships Shawmut and Tremont, besides the Lyra, Klondike and Pleiades. The Lyra, Klondike and Pleiades, which are now in the hands of the Shawmut and Tremont companies, will be sold to the Boston Steamship company.

MADE BIG CATCHES.

Victoria-owned Sealing Schooners Doing Well Off Cape Horn.

A letter has been received at Port Townsend, according to a despatch from that port, dated from Port Stanley, Falkland Islands, on April 4. The writer says: "New sealing grounds have been discovered. Three sealing schooners from Nova Scotia have reached Port Stanley, and are now sealing out of season, and commencing to pack up their gear. The schooner, which is owned by the government, has made a big catch of seals, and that official is powerless to act, as there is no government sealers in the place."

FLOATING DOCKYARD.

To Be Built by Moran Brothers at Seattle.

A floating drydock to cost approximately \$200,000, will be constructed by Moran Brothers for use in their shipyard. Plans and specifications are now being prepared, and the dock will be built without waste of time. The dock will be 605 feet long, 65 feet beam, and has a depth of hold of 40 feet. It will have three complete steel decks, nine cargo hatches, ten derrick posts and twelve double cylinder cranes.

HAVE REACHED DAWSON.

Five Starwheeler Are at the Yukon Metropolis.

The starwheeler Bailey, Zealandian, Clifford Sifton, Hootalliqua and Casca have reached Dawson from Lake Leif Ericson, and are now unloading their heavy cargo of freight, mostly perishables, the arrival of which relieved the high prices in Dawson market. The first steamer left Dawson for the Yukon on Tuesday. Several others will soon follow. The first steamer from Anvik is expected at Dawson 18 weeks hence, and the first steamer from St. Michael in six weeks.

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THREE JAPS IN A BOAT

Were Drunk and Almost Upset Craft Before Being Set Ashore.

Tired and weary, three Japanese—the proprietor of a local Japanese boarding house and two friends—walked into the city in the early hours of yesterday morning from a single beach beyond Albert Head, where in consequence of the heavy rain, the boat was driven ashore.

"It can be proved that one of the Canadian railways is in the Chinese passenger traffic regularly, and is assisting the smugglers by stopping its passenger trains several miles outside of a certain point on the coast, and allowing the Chinese to travel freely in the country, where wagons, built especially for the purpose, take whole gangs over the border under cover of night, and carry this way thousands of Chinese enter the United States annually."

TRADES AND LABOR COUNCIL

Discussed at Meeting Last Evening.

The regular meeting of the Trades and Labor Council was held last night, with a large attendance of delegates was present. Before the council proceeded with its business, Mr. Hawthornthwaite, M.P.P., introduced a bill, and gave a short address on labor legislation, and said that he thought that all labor legislation should be submitted to the Labor Council before being put through the House.

BILLS NOW BEFORE THE HOUSE

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BATTLE IMMINENT.

Firm's Entrance to Port an Issue is Held.

Port an Issue is Held. May 21.—The people here are very excited and anxious regarding the entrance of the Japanese army into the city. The general belief is that if General Firmin persists in his intention to attempt to force an entrance into Port an issue, a severe engagement will take place. This despatch is sent the better of friends can be heard on the battle, and armed men are gathering for the occasion.

TO BE REMEMBERED.

My memory of course is not so bright as it was twenty years ago, but I do not know but it is a very interesting story, and I shall be glad to tell it to you, if you will be so kind as to call on me at my office, or if you prefer, I will call on you at your home.

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