

THE PANAMA CANAL

Report From the Directors of the Technical Commission Showing Plan of Work.

More Than Three Thousand Men Are Now at Work Along the Line

Yukon, March 17.—The Herald publishes the following report from Panama: The technical commission employed on the Panama canal to arrive at the most practical and financially sound plan of construction, showing the plan to be followed in part it is the profile of the lock canal will be...

A FIGHT FOR LIFE

THE EXPERIENCE OF MR. SAMUEL SPARKS OF NAPANE. A Terrible Sufferer from Sciatic Rheumatism—At Times as Helpless as a Child—The Trouble Aggravated by What the Doctor Said was Consumption of the Bowels, and no Hope of Recovery Was Held Out.

From the Napane Beaver. The life of one afflicted by rheumatism is at times almost unbearable. The sufferer is racked with pain until he thinks even death would be a relief from this painful malady. Among those who have suffered much and found relief is Mr. Samuel Sparks, a market gardener well known in Napane and vicinity. Mr. Sparks recently related to a reporter how he was restored to health and strength. He said: "For several years I have been a great sufferer from rheumatism in my limbs. The doctor who attended me called it sciatic rheumatism, and the trouble was always worse in the spring than in any other season. In the spring of 1895 I had a very severe attack, and was much worse than I had ever been before. I was not able to do work even of the lightest kind. I suffered the greatest agony and could not get either sitting up or lying down. At times I was helpless as a little child, for my legs felt as though they had become paralyzed. Then the trouble seemed to settle in my bowels, and the doctor said that it was consumption of the bowels, and that I could not live much longer. As the doctor could do nothing for me, I determined to make another fight for life and try Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. I felt that even if they would give me relief, it would be blessing. Great was my astonishment, however, when within forty-eight hours after beginning the use of the pills I found relief. I kept on taking the Pink Pills, every day growing stronger and stronger, until at last I was a new man and able to do as hard a day's work as any man in the township. I cannot praise Dr. Williams' Pink Pills too much, as in my case they restored health after all other means had failed. Dr. Williams' Pink Pills act directly upon the blood and nerves, building them anew and thus driving disease from the system. There is no trouble due to either of these causes which Pink Pills will not cure, and in hundreds of cases they have restored patients to health after all other remedies had failed. Ask for Dr. Williams' Pink Pills and take nothing else. The genuine are always enclosed in boxes the wrapper around which bears the full trade mark 'Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People.' May be had from all dealers or sent postpaid on receipt of 50 cents a box or 6 boxes for \$2.50 by addressing Dr. Williams Medicine Company, Brockville, Ont.

Money No Object. Amount of money sufferers from rheumatism are spending in attempting to cure and disagreeable disease is almost incalculable. J. W. Jennings, of Ont., says: "I spent between \$500 and \$800 consulting doctors; I had the treatments without benefit of the Chamberlain's Catarrh Cure for me than all the remedies. The box cured me." Don't waste your money on the Chamberlain's Catarrh Cure, with improved formula. It cures.

DISASTROUS FIRES

People Thrown Out of West—Fatalities in Chicago. Chicago, March 17.—Fire broke out here on the Ely Walker Dry Goods company at 7 o'clock last evening. It carried a stock valued at \$1,000,000, with an insurance of \$1,000,000. The stock has been almost entirely destroyed. The fire broke out in the east wall of the building, and in a few minutes it had spread to the street car and an elevator. The fire had spread to the building was at the corner of Eighth street and Madison avenue. It was owned by the Chicago estate. The structure is a four-story high, built of granite and was considered one of the most fire-proof constructions in the city. The fire was caused by a gas lamp. Dead—George Brown, caught under falling beams—Patrick Gardmore, fire down shaft legs and arm internally injured, will die. Jerry McCahan, fireman, thrown from a ladder, back broken, will die. One thousand persons will be thrown out of work by the fire.

THE LUNACY BILL

Passes Its Second Reading After a Short Discussion—Petition From Drugists. Three Private Bills Were Considered in Committee—The Quatsino Colony. Monday, 15th March, 1897. The Speaker took the chair at 2 o'clock; prayers by Rev. Canon Beaulieu.

PEPPER. Mr. Semlin presented a petition from the Quatsino River Hydraulic Company asking for leave to amend a former petition. The petition out of order as it asks for powers which the crown alone can grant.

RAILWAY FERRY. Mr. Booth, chairman of the private bills committee, reported the preamble passed in the House to incorporate the Vancouver-Nanaimo Railway Transfer Company and submitted the bill with amendments. The report was received.

MUNICIPAL ACT. Mr. Sword asked leave to introduce a bill entitled "An Act to amend the Municipal Elections Act." Leave was granted, the bill was read a first time and the second reading was fixed for Wednesday.

SONGHEES RESERVE. Mr. Helmecken moved and Mr. Braden seconded "That the honorable member be presented to His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, praying him to be caused to be laid before the house copies of all correspondence which has passed between his government and the government of the Dominion of Canada with reference to the question of the removal of the Indians from the Songhees reserve since the return dated the 11th of February, 1897, was presented to the house."

COAL LANDS. Hon. Mr. Martin presented a return asked for by Mr. Graham of all the correspondence for coal lands at Rock Creek, White Lake, East Yale and in Osoyoos district.

SUPPLY. Hon. Mr. Turner moved that supply be granted to Her Majesty and that the house go into committee on Wednesday morning at 10 o'clock. The motion was passed without discussion.

BEDDLING AND NELSON. Mr. Haines asked leave to introduce "An Act to incorporate the Beddling & Nelson Railway Company." Leave was granted and the bill was read a first time.

PHARMACY ACT. Dr. Walkem presented a petition from the wholesale druggists protesting against the passage of the bill to amend the pharmacy act. The petitioners pointed out that many poisons, such as "Rough on Rats," came to them in large quantities, and to conform with the amendment they would have to be changed into rough bottles. The petition was received.

LAND CLAUSES. The report of the committee on the Land Clauses Consolidation Act was adopted and the third reading was fixed for Wednesday.

LUNACY BILL. The adjourned debate on the second reading of the Lunacy Bill was resumed. Mr. Semlin stated that he would not oppose the second reading, but would introduce some amendments in committee.

Dr. Walkem said the bill was a good one with the exception of one or two sections. He objected to the appointment of the superintendent of asylums as inspector of lunatics. It was a tedious system to have lunatics controlled by one man. Dr. Walkem also objected to relatives of a lunatic being threatened with sending that lunatic home unless they paid up. Such a threat was too undignified to be inserted in a public act. The section dealing with the examination of supposed lunatics previous to incarceration also required to be amended. The doctor said it would be more in keeping with the spirit of the times if the act mentioned "hospitals for the insane" instead of "lunatic asylums." (Hear, hear.) The bill was read a second time.

COMMITTEE CHANGED. Mr. Sword announced that he found he had no time to act as a member of the public accounts committee, and asked that Mr. Kennedy be substituted in his stead. The arrangement was agreed to.

WEST KOOTENAY CO. The house went into committee with Mr. Huff in the chair to consider the West Kootenay Power and Light Company's Act. Several clauses were considered and the committee rose and reported progress.

REVELSTOCK TELEPHONE CO. The house went into committee with Mr. Kennedy in the chair to consider the Revelstoke, Trout Lake and Big Bend Telephone Co., Ltd., Act. All the clauses were passed with one slight amendment. The committee rose and reported the bill complete with amendments.

CASTORIA For Infants and Children. The house went into committee with Mr. Williams in the chair to consider the private bill introduced by the Cassiar Central Railway Company. The incorporator is Warburton Pike. The capital stock of the company is \$1,000,000 and the object is to construct and operate a railway from a point on the Skeena river to a point in the vicinity of Dease lake, in Cassiar district. The committee passed twenty-three clauses and then rose and reported progress.

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WATER RIGHTS. Hon. Mr. Eberts moved the second reading of the Water Power and Water Privileges Bill. He said that the first part of the act was a reissue of the Water Privileges Act, 1892, which vested all water rights in the crown. By this act the agriculturist will be hereafter to get all the water necessary for irrigating his land and for domestic purposes, and the placer miner and owner of a mineral claim will be placed in a similar position. A change is made in the act with reference to the security given by a man for going over another person's land for the purpose of taking water. The security will be more perfect than in the old act. Instead of coming to parliament for an act it will be within the power of a municipality to secure water supply under this general act. A section which would likely meet with opposition was the one giving municipalities power to appropriate recorded water rights. It would be seen, however, that compensation was a condition to such expropriation. A clause which he considered would meet with the approbation of the house was the one giving municipalities the right to purchase waterworks systems. The manner for private companies getting rights was much more expedient under this general act than by coming to the legislature for private acts. Provision was made for making companies submit their bills for the approval of the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council. Mr. Eberts believed such a comprehensive bill will meet with general approval. There might be sections requiring amendment, but the general tenor of the bill was in the right direction. (Applause.)

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Mr. Cotton complimented the Attorney-General for the care displayed in the preparation of such an elaborate act. The proposition that the right of water only goes with the use of water had his unqualified approval. There should, however, be a clear definition of how the water should be used in the province, more definite than it was in the act. Persons appropriating water for mechanical purposes should give way to those desiring water for domestic purposes, and this should be made plain in the act. It would be necessary to have all streams measured so that it can be accurately ascertained the amount of water power in each stream. He thought the government should not have retained the old system of measuring water. He was much pleased with the bill as a whole, and that the Attorney-General should be congratulated on the good work he had done.

Mr. Sword considered the act should more distinctly define the position of water rights in the province. Some discussion in the courts had left the matter in doubt. He entirely agreed with the clauses giving municipalities power to purchase existing waterworks, but believed the premiums which municipalities had to pay for such systems should be materially reduced. Provision might also have been made by which the province could secure a revenue from the users of water. He also considered that there should be a general act by which telephone and telegraph companies could erect poles and string wires, as they usually did not require water to generate the power required. The bill also should have been made for the inspection of reservoirs, as in other countries the bursting of reservoirs often caused great loss of life and damage to property. There were other details missing which would be better discussed in committee.

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THE LUNACY BILL

THOSE COLONIES. Hon. Col. Baker, minister of immigration, yesterday presented the return asked for by Captain Irving, which includes all the correspondence relating to the Quatsino and Cape Scott colonies. The return is very voluminous. It shows that the settlers at Quatsino have asked for further time to get the required number of men to take advantage of the regulations relating to free land. The minister of immigration gave an extension of time until June 30. The expenditure in connection with the Quatsino colony for the mining division at Fort Rupert, 1895-96, \$3,071.84; same road, 1896-97, \$1,967.50; surveys, etc., \$2,097.74; steamer Mischief, trips with supplies for settlers, \$100.50 copies Taxation, \$250.00 total, \$7,228.08. There was no expenditure in connection with the Cape Scott colony. The correspondence in connection with the Cape Scott colony shows that preparations are being made for the mining division of Similkameen, obtained leave of absence during that part of 1896 from the 1st of May to 31st of December.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS. Mr. Adams asked the hon. minister of the How often has Hugh Hunter, mining recorder for the mining division of Similkameen, obtained leave of absence during that part of 1896 from the 1st of May to 31st of December? Hon. Col. Baker—Once, as far as I am aware.

Mr. Semlin asked the premier—How soon will the government inform this house of its railway policy. The Premier—The government expects to do so this week or next week.

NOTICES OF MOTION. By Dr. Walkem—To move that all correspondence between Thomas L. Briggs, of Nanaimo, and any department of the government in relation to a claim for wrongful seizure by a sheriff. By Mr. Graham—To introduce a bill to amend the Game Protection Amendment Act, 1896.

NOTICES OF QUESTION. Mr. Graham—To ask: By section 35 of the Mineral Act free miners are compelled to pay \$5 per acre upon issuing of a crown grant for a mineral claim within the railway belt. 1. Have the provincial authorities any control over this charge? 2. Does this money go into the Dominion or provincial treasury? 3. If into the Dominion treasury, does any agreement or compact exist with the Dominion authorities for insertion of such a provision in the mineral act? 4. If such compact does exist, what is the nature of it?

By Mr. Williams—To ask: Is it the intention of the government to introduce legislation at the present session for the relief of those municipalities disincorporated by reason of the disfranchisement of the electors by the Municipal Clauses Act, 1896, or by the Municipal Election Act, 1897?

WATER RIGHTS. Hon. Mr. Eberts moved the second reading of the Water Power and Water Privileges Bill. He said that the first part of the act was a reissue of the Water Privileges Act, 1892, which vested all water rights in the crown. By this act the agriculturist will be hereafter to get all the water necessary for irrigating his land and for domestic purposes, and the placer miner and owner of a mineral claim will be placed in a similar position. A change is made in the act with reference to the security given by a man for going over another person's land for the purpose of taking water. The security will be more perfect than in the old act. Instead of coming to parliament for an act it will be within the power of a municipality to secure water supply under this general act. A section which would likely meet with opposition was the one giving municipalities power to appropriate recorded water rights. It would be seen, however, that compensation was a condition to such expropriation. A clause which he considered would meet with the approbation of the house was the one giving municipalities the right to purchase waterworks systems. The manner for private companies getting rights was much more expedient under this general act than by coming to the legislature for private acts. Provision was made for making companies submit their bills for the approval of the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council. Mr. Eberts believed such a comprehensive bill will meet with general approval. There might be sections requiring amendment, but the general tenor of the bill was in the right direction. (Applause.)

Mr. Semlin had listened with pleasure to the Attorney