Kootenay House 15

THE GOLDEN ERA.

VOL. V. NO. 30 GOLDEN B.C., SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 29, 1896. $2 PER YEAR

Stock Taking.

Commencing

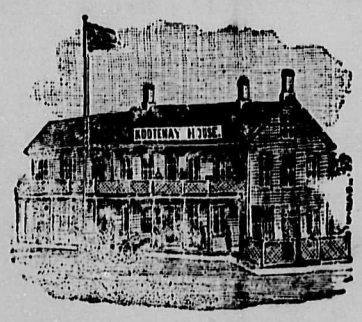
FEBRUARY 1st

BARGAINS FOR CASH

Must be cleared out to make room for Spring Goods.

CHAS. A. WARREN,

GOLDEN, B.C.



KOOTENAY HOUSE,

GOLDEN, B.C.,

H. D. HUME, Prop.

STRICTLY FIRST CLASS.

FREE SAMPLE ROOM FOR COMMERCIAL MEN.

Notice!

I respectfully beg to announce that on and after March 1st next, I shall discontinue giving any **CREDIT,** believing that the **CASH SYSTEM** is the only satisfactory way in which to do business.

I trust that this arrangement will prove mutually successful, and that by offering the best goods at the lowest profitable prices, I shall continue to receive your patronage.

H. G. PARSON,

General Merchant.

HUDSON'S BAY CO.

(INCORPORATED 1670.)

Furs

The backbone of the winter is now practically broken and we must clear out the balance of our furs or carry them over until next season. Carrying goods from one season to another is not our policy so please see if what follows does not interest you:

MEN'S AUSTRALIAN BEAR COATS
Original price $25 Reduced to $20
" " 20 " 15

MEN'S LONG COON COATS,
Original price $50 Reduced to $45
" " 45 " 40
" " 40 " 35

MEN'S SHORT COON COAT
Original Price $35 Reduced to $25

Men's Persian Lamb. Beaver and other Caps at 10 per cent discount.

HUDSON'S BAY STORES,

CALGARY, ALTA.

FINE FARM FOR SALE.

In the matter of James M. Rogers, deceased:

By order of the County Court of Kootenay, sealed tenders for the purchase of Lot 108, Group 1, situate near Windermere in the district of East Kootenay, will be received by the undersigned and will be opened at noon on Tuesday the 18th day of February, A.D., 1896.

This is as fine a farm as there is in the district, 90 acres have been under cultivation and are fenced and irrigated, 60 acres additional are fenced and have been used as pasture. 250 acres are excellent arable land and can be irrigated at a small expense. The improvements include a frame dwelling house and a full set of outbuildings.

$1,500 may remain on mortgage for 3 years at 8 per cent interest.

For terms and further particulars apply to the undersigned.

J. F. ARMSTRONG,
Official Administrator,
d14. Donald, B.C.

Golden Hospital Society.

HOURS FOR CONSULTATION.

From 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m.
" 2 p.m. " 4 p.m.
" 7 " " 8 "
Sunday from 10 a.m. to 12 m., and from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m.

VISITING HOURS.

From 2:30 p.m. to 8 p.m., daily, except Monday and Saturday.

BY ORDER.

LOST OR FAILING MANHOOD,

General and Nervous Debility,

Weakness of Body and Mind. Effects of Errors or Excesses in Old or Young. Robust, Noble Manhood fully Restored. How to enlarge and Strengthen Weak, Undeveloped Organs and Parts of Body. Absolutely unfailing Home Treatment—Benefits in a day. Men testify from 50 States and Foreign Countries. Write them. Descriptive Book, explanation and proofs mailed (sealed) free.

ERIE MEDICAL CO., Buffalo, N.Y.

GILMOUR'S

Rheumatic Wafers

are guaranteed to cure

La Grippe, Rheumatism, Neuralgia, & Sciatica.

PRICE $1 per box, or 6 Boxes for $5.

J. G. TEMPLETON, Chemist, Calgary, is Wholesale Agent.

The Neilson Furniture Co

(Limited)

Will mail, free of charge, one of their Illustrated Catalogues and Price Lists to any person sending them their address.

The Neilson Furniture Co., Calgary, Alberta.

OUR TOWN.

Golden, on the main line of the Canadian Pacific Railway, at its connection with the steamboat navigation of the Columbia river; the mineral and commercial centre of Eastern British Columbia; headquarters of the Golden Smelting works, the Upper Columbia Navigation Co., and lumber industry; the outlet for the widely known and far famed agricultural and grazing land of the Columbia & Kootenay Valleys; unrivalled for scenery of all kinds; the distributing point for the richest mineral country on the continent.

LOCAL JOTTINGS.

We notice that Mr. F. C. Lang has changed the colour of his rig to Brown

Mr. F. C. Lang in returning from the Upper Country brought some valuable specimens, and gives us great accounts of the decided improvements to be seen on some of the ranches. He scarcely went as far as Windermere.

We hear that "Heart and Hand" is not in it, since the opening of the Matrimonial Bureau at Shortyville, I shall not try to explain the geography of that place.

Mr. McDermot has just received the latest styles in Stetson Cow Boy, Soft and Fedora hats—something new you bet.

The Carbonate Hotel will have an "At Home" about the first of the month, at which there will be an opportunity to ——!

Quite a number of the Oddfellows attended the regular meeting on Monday evening, "Carbonate" however was not represented.

Mr. C. Cartwright who has the contract for the hauling of the Vermont Creek ore has over half of the amount contracted delivered at the landing.

Mr. P. Lambrich of the Riverside House, Spillemachene, has in course of construction a large scow to be used as a ferry, for the transport of teams and supplies to the Bugaboo and Spillemachene mines.

The Calgary bonspiel is over, the curlers have returned, the boys had a good time—for further particulars apply to Mr. O. P. Thompson.

We also—after some preliminaries—hear that "Maccoroniville" the new and commodious townsite south of here is receiving considerable attention Large investments are being made in lots by the capitalists of the neighborhood.

Golden's dull, sure! We just see now and then, some few remains of the Calgary bonspiel. It was a good time they had there, and certainly helps Golden to keep up its acquired reputation.

It is, too, absorbed in public meetings, political and otherwise. I am beginning to think the town can at last show some courtesy to its Hon. Member, and consider him fortunate to receive so much attention and it is hinted that he will receive more if arrangements are not speedily made to improve the river banks.

MINING NEWS.

Moves in mining matters in different parts of the world are quite apparent, and some are turning their attention to the Kootenays. There are expected in a short time—at the immediate commencement of spring—two strong companies, who will turn their attention particularly to East Kootenay. The one is introducing English capital and the other American. It appears useless to keep reiterating the fact that there are numerous prospects in East Kootenay that will very well stand investigation and that we have one of the richest mineral belts in British Columbia. The fact is well known to many and it is only a matter of time, and we shall see as prosperous a mining locality as there is in the Province This amendment to the assessment act is—if made enforceable—however, very much calculated to discourage further developement of our mineral wealth. But it is to be hoped that by the influence of West and East Kootenay combined the Provincial Legislature will be brought to reconsider the measure, for if they do not the effect will be disastrous indeed to us here, where mining is in its infancy.

Mr. Harry Symonds, Q.C., of Calgary, who was here some two weeks ago, procuring bonds on mining properties has—after obtaining a considerable amount—sailed for England to try and place them on the market. Mr. Symonds has the interests of Calgary particularly at heart in the scheme, but he thinks by having East Kootenay "go ahead" Calgary will not be left without feeling some of the advantages derived. We hope he may succeed and will endeavor to render him every assistance in our power.

Mr. B. Able of Windermere was in town last week procuring supplies for the carrying out of some work on the Swansea claim near Windermere. It is a copper property containing carbonates and oxides of copper. There has been some work done on it prior to this and has shown the claim to be more than ordinarily rich in copper. A shaft of 60ft. has been sunk which exposes a large body of mineralized vein matter and it is the intention of Mr. Able to go deeper on the lode as it appears to improve as he proceeds from the surface. Some of the ore has, I believe, been shipped to Swansea with very encouraging results.

We understand that Mr. C. McKay has disposed of his half interest in his copper property on Spillemachene. This is a Crown grant property and quite a large amount of work has been done which proves materially the continuity and richness of the deposit It is more than likely that active operations will be commenced there in the spring. We also understand that Mr. H. B. Alexander who holds the other half, refuses to dispose of it, as he firmly believes the property will ultimately become very valuable.

Mr. McNeish is also continuing work on the Hidden Treasure mine on Spillemachene, and is now devoting his attention to the mining of shipping ore rather than of developing the property. It may not be out of place to suggest that it is always the better plan to endeavor to keep in the ledge and mine ore, rather than to drive tunnels in the hope of striking the lode somewhere or other, where the amount of capital to be expended is not inexhaustable.

The Golden Era

The GOLDEN ERA is published every Saturday morning in time to catch the east and west mail trains, also the mail for the upper country, Windermere, Fort Steele etc is the only advertising medium in the East ootenay district

Subscription Rates: $2.00 per annum IN ADVANCE.

Advertisements and changes must be in the office not later than 12 a m, on Thursday to insure insertion.

All cash to be paid to the Manager, from whom the Company's receipt will be obtained.

Advertisement rates made known on application to

The Golden Era Publishing Company.

SATURDAY, FEB. 29 1896.

MORE TAXES! sure thing! An increased revenue from sources old and new, but principally the latter, is provided for by a bill to amend the assessment act. It reduces the amount exempted from $1,500 to $860.

Then "there shall be assessed, levied and collected from every person, and paid to Her Majesty, her heirs and successors, the sums following, that is to say: –

"Four-fifths of one per cent. on the assessed value of real estate other than 'wild land':

"Three-quarters of one per cen,. on the assessed value of personal property:

"One and one-quarter per cent on so much of the income of any person as exceeds eight hundred dollars:

"Three per cent on the assessed value of 'wild land':

"Provided, always, that if the above taxes so assessed and levied are paid on or before the 30th day of June in each year, but not otherwise, the collector is hereby authorized to receive and shall receive in lieu of the above rates :—

"Three-fifths of one per cent on the assessed value of real estate other than 'wild land':

"One-half of one per cent on the assessed value of personal property:

"One per cent on so much of the income of any person as exceeds eight huddred dollars:

"Two and one-half per cent upon the assessed value of 'wild land.'"

"TAXATION OF MINES AND MINERALS.

"And whereas the output of mines in tht province is by law subject to the personal property tax, but there rre no adequate provisions for its *equitable adjustment and collection.* and it is advisable to remedy this and to deal separately and clearly with the taxation of this division of property:

"There shall be assessed, levied and collected from every person owning, managing, leasing cr working a mine, and paid to Her Majesty, her heirs and *successors, the sums following, that is* to say:

"Two per cent on the assessed value of the gross output of such mine, that is to say: on the assessed value of all ore or mineral-bearing substances raised, gotten or gained from any lands in the province, such value to be *so assessed and determined upon such* output as it lies on the mining premises."

The tax upon mining output above provided for is to be payable monthly.

This last provision rather beats anything I ever heard of. on the plea of equitable taxation too. Consider *for a moment the effect of such a law,* surely the present free miner of B.C has enough difficulties to overcome without loading him with another. Instead of hampering him in every possible way I should have thought that it would have been more to the point if the policy of the government *of a province which depends almost* entirely for its future prosperity on its mineral resources, had been to render auy and all assistance in their power to the developers oi its main industry, and we all know how badly we stand in need of such development. The thing in itself is absurd. Wait until the properties are paying to be operated, then they may bear a tax, but to throw dust in the eyes of the hard working developer by taxing him on the plea that he is spending his money for the good of the province is not altogether a desirable plan of procedure for our picked men to establish as a precedent for future generations to take example. And then, the way the assessments are proposed to be levied is most unequitable. Fer example suppose you had on your ore dump 100 tons of refractory gold ore, which assayed $50 to the ton. It would be assessed at $5,000 or so, you at the time did not know that it may cost you $25 to the ton to treat it, nevertheless you would have to pay your tax of $100. I have the same amount of free-milling gold ore which will only cost me $2 a ton to be treated still I have only to pay the same amount of taxes, though my profits are nearly double yours. And then again how is the assessor to arrive at the "value of the gross out-put" of a mine, without the services of an experienced sampler and a considerable number of assays. Such a bill is outside the bounds of reason to any practical man.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Awake all ye that sleep! The comet is coming, to be here on the 14th. We hear the sound of the trump, and if the professor has made a *mistake of a* millioneth part of a unit in his figures the comet may strike us. Some of you remember on the occasion of that hostile invader wauting to approach us too nearly some 35 years past, it was the popular opinion that we should escape him if we betook ourselves to Australia, and not a few went thither.

The north pole has been discovered, of course it has, and as I think one of our contemporaries suggested that the *Canadian Government should certainly* "take it up." Why, sure thing! they could project a land and water route which would certainly open "other markets" for our protected industries. It would be beneficiai I think if the Hudson Bay scheme be left to subside for a few days and this be taken up. I *mention this only for further con*sideration of course.

I saw in one of the West Kootenay papers, I do not exactly kdow which now, a statement which surprised me not a little. It was that a company had paid $25,000 for a property—mineral of course—and that the Co. thought or hoped they had a mine, this is an instance of one of the many evils invariably attending a boom. If they think they have a mine of course they *have got it.* But their hopes may be deferred and we cannot pity them if their hearts grow sick.

The comet has surely warned some *to flee from their senses,* for we hear much and long of the new Napoleon and then that "strange and unheard of scenes will then transpire" and the end of the world comes in 1904 and strange to relate that "nine" months after the translation of the 144 000, Satan and his legion will be cast down to the earth from the atmospheric heavens. This will occupy for its progressive completion about seventy days, chiefly through January and February 1904 The only remark I can make on these Biblical interpretations of the Rev. Baxter's is that he appears to be 8 years too late in fixing his time; for if you remember Perrine's comet takes us to our long account on the 14th or 15th of March next.

The Provincial Government are doing well; that is if passing bills go for anything. The way in which they got the school bill through its second reading—without the usual debating, which would considering its importance to the Province, have only been "cold modesty"—certainly does them credit. The leader of the Government did not speak in favor of its most important bill of the session, because a member of the Opposition did not, or could not, or would not, speak before him, and consequently no one rising to speak—I thought it was usual for the Government take, at the second reading of their bills, the opportunity to explain their views on the subject matter of the logislation that they seek to make law—the acting speaker put the motion for the second reading, it was carried with a rush and amid a very audible chuckle from the ministerial benches at the "cleverness" of their Premier in refusing to voice the views of the government at a time when it was considered inopportune as a party manoeuvre. Of course I should not mention this, but to show the cleverness of our government.—"The evil that men do lives after them, the good is oft interred with their bones."

In another column I have published —at the request of the committee appointed at public meeting—the reply received by them re the improvements *on the banks of the Kicking Horse* river from the Provincial Secretary. We are glad to hear that it has advanced to such a stage that it is under the considoration of the Government Agent, but as to it "being possible to apply any appropriation for that purpose" is not what we want to be de*pending on for the safety of the town.* There is nothing in the whole of East Kootenay that requires appropriations so badly to be granted for as on the bank of the river at the west end of the town. It is just because we "remember the large sums that have been already spent upon the banks" that *we are so anxious to have some more* spent. For if there is not what has been spent will be utterly thrown away, it is to protect the sound parts that we are endeavoring to have done. I should like to impress upon the Government Agent this very urgent need and hope that when under his con*sideration it will receive due attention.*

According to one of our American contemporaries published in one of the principle cities of the States, the Rev. —— said that he had recently come across a very interesting fact, discovered by some one working in Smithsonian Institution. The discovery related to the colour of sin. Several of the ministers present spoke up and said that the colour of sin was scarlet because the Bible said so. Dr. —— replied that the scientist who had made this inuestigation had discovered that sin was a distinct colour of its own. He has, by means of a chemical process examined the perspiration of persons aroused to a sinful passion, and when this was subjected to a certain test the perspiration became a pinkisk colour. He had made more than 40 experiments and in every instante the result was the same. The *perspiration coming from persons not* under the influence of evil does not have the colour. I should not mention this, but I rather see that by this discovery we shall be able, in the future, to draw the sinful line which is all important nowadays. From henceforth there will be a fixed line of demarcation for the Christian. But still we may ask: cui bono?

In another part will be found some letters from Mr. W. G. Bott, of Salmon River. His communications are certainly worthy of consideration. *Golden is without doubt.* the proper location for a port of customs, and his suggestion of sending a request to the Government may have some fruit, if entered into in the right spirit.

He is of course quite correct about the best place to establish a hatchery. Donald or Golden would be out of the question, the Salmon Beds which is at present the hatchery of the Columbia river is undoubtedly the place, and it uncertain if a place possessing better natural advantages for an extensive *Salmon Hatchery can be found on the* Pacific coast.

G. B. McDermot's

Is the Place to Buy Your

Groceries,

Dry Goods,

Boots & Shoes,

Hardware, Etc.

Bargains For Cash

Goods Must be Sold to make room for

SPRING PURCHASES.

It is money in your pocket

To Buy Your Goods at

The Great Bargain Store

Golden, B.C.

Orders by Mail Promptly Attended To.

Look for the Little Card in the Pockets.

Shorey's celebrated ready-made clothing has a card in the pocket of each garment guaranteeing the cloth used in its manufacture to be thoroughly **Sponged** and **Shrunk** and its workmanship to be sound in every particular. Always ask for and be sure that you get Shorey's make. Every reliable dealer keeps it.

Shorey's Ready Made Clothing

Notice to Taxpayers.

Assessment Act and Provincial Revenue Tax.

DONALD DIVISION OF EAST KOOTENAY DISTRICT.

NOTICE is hereby given, in accordance with the Statues, that Provincial Revenue Tax and all taxes levied under the Assessment Act are now due for the year 1896. All of the above named taxes collectable within the Donald Division of East Kootenay district, are payable at my office, the Court House, Golden.

Assessed taxes are collectable at the following rates, viz.:

If paid on or before June 30th 1896:

One half of one per cent on real property.

Two per cent on assessed value of wild land.

One third of one per cent on personal property.

One half of one per cent on income.

If paid after June 30th 1896—

Two-thirds of one per cent on real property.

Two and one half per cent on assessed value of wild land.

One half of one per cent on personal property.

Three-fourths of one per cent on income.

Provincial Revenue Tax $3.00 per capita.

F. C. LANG,
Assessor and Collector.

Golden, January 2nd, 1896.

NOTICE.

In the Supreme Court of British Columbia, re Connacher, —Connacher vs. Pither.

Pursuant to an order of the Supreme Court of British Columbia made in the matter of the estate of Henry Connacher in the suit of Connacher vs Pither. The creditors of Henry Connacher, late of Golden, in the District of Kootenay, hotel keeper, deceased, who died on or about the month of January, 1895, are on or before the first day of April, 1896, to send by registered letter to A. G. M. Spragge, of Donald, in the District of Kootenay, British Columbia, the solicitor for James Stevens Connacher, the above named plaintiff, the executor of the deceased, their Christian and surname addresses and discriptions, the full particulars of their claims, a statement of their accounts, and the nature of the securities (if any) held by them or in default thereof they will be peremptorilly excluded from the benefit of the said order. Every creditor holding any security is to produce the same before James Ferguson Armstrong, Registrar of the County Court at Donald, the Referee appointed by the Court to take the accounts and enquiries under the said order, at his chambers at the Court House at Donald in the Province of British Columbia on the 8th day of April. 1889, at ten o'clock in the forenoon being the time appointed for adjudication on the said claims.

Dated at Donald, in the District of Kootenay, British Columbia, this 15th day of January, 1896.

J. F. ARMSTRONG,

Referee appointed under the said order.

Church Services.

The usual evening service will be held to-morrow in St. Paul's Church at 7:30 o'clock.

Methodist service will be held in the school house to-morrow morning at 10 o'clock, conducted by Mr. Robins.

Presbyterian service will be held to-morrow evening in the school house at 7:30 o'clock, conducted by Rev. T. S. Glassford, B.A.

NOTICE.

Application for Certificate of Improvements.

EXCELSIOR MINERAL CLAIM.

Take notice that I, Walter Dainard, free miner's certificate No. 47839, intend, 60 days from the date hereof, to apply to the Gold Commissioner for a certificate of improvements, for the purpose of obtaining a Crown grant of the above claim.

And further take notice, that adverse claims must be sent to the Mining Recorder and action commenced before the issuance of such certificate of improvements.

Dated this seventh day of December 1895.

WALTER DAINARD,
By his agent, F. W. Aylmer.

NOTICE!

Application for Certificates of Improvements.

HIDDEN TREASURE AND GIANT MINERAL CLAIMS.

Take notice that I, Thomas Jones, free miner's certificate No. 47848, intend 60 days from date hereof, to apply to the Gold Commissioner for certificates of improvements for the purpose of obtaining crown grants of above claims.

And further take notice that adverse claims must be sent to the Mining Recorder and action commenced before the issuance of such certificates of improvements.

THOS. JONES,
By his agent F. W. Aylmer.

Dated this 14th day of December, 1895.

NOTICE!

Notice of Application for Certificates of Improvements.

SIMCOE AND LANCASTER MINERAL CLAIMS.

Take notice that I, John McRae, free miner's certificate No. 81453, intend, sixty days from the date hereof, to apply to the Gold Commissioner for certificates of improvements, for the purpose of obtaining Crown grants of the above claims.

And further take notice that adverse claims must be sent to the Mining Recorder, and action commenced before the issuance of such certificates of improvements.

JOHN MCRAE,
By his agent F W. AYLMER.

Dated this 14th day of December. 1894.

NOTICE.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that application will be made to the Legislative Assembly of the Province of British Columbia at the next session for an act to incorporate a company for the purpose of constructing, operating and working deep tunnels, drifts or shafts for the purpose of exploring for, discovering, working, getting, acquiring and recovering minerals situate in blind veins, ledges or lodes in the Districts of East and West Kootenay, Yale and Cariboo, in the Province of British Columbia, and for entering upon and acquiring lands for such purposes, and for collecting tolls for the use of such tunnels or workings by any other persons or companies engaged in mining and for acquiring such water powers or privileges, rights or incidents, as may be necessary for, or incidental or conducive to the attainment of the foregoing objects or any of them.

A. E. HUMPHREYS,
d24 st Applicant.

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TELEGRAPH ORDERS PROMPTLY ATTENDED TO.

DRESS & MANTLE MAKING
MRS. STARFORTH,
late with MISSES BARLOW & WEIR, Portage la Prairie.
GUARANTEES PERFECT FIT AND FINISH.
All orders left with MR. G. B. McDERMOT will have prompt attention.

Golden Hospital Society.

THE HOSPITAL is now open for the admission of patients.

TICKETS may be had from the undersigned or any member of the committee.

PRICE Ten Dollars per year or Six Dollars per half year.

NO EXTRAS except private wards.

G. F. PARSON,
Secretary.

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The GOLDEN ERA

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FROM THE TEA PLANT TO THE TEA CUP
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"Monsoon" Tea is put up by the Indian Tea growers as a sample of the best qualities of Indian Teas. Therefore they use the greatest care in the selection of the Tea and its blend, that is why they put it up themselves and sell it only in the original packages, thereby securing its purity and excellence. Put up in ½ lb., 1 lb. and 5 lb. packages, and never sold in bulk.
ALL GOOD GROCERS KEEP IT.
If your grocer does not keep it, tell him to write to
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MOST PERFECT MADE.
A pure Grape Cream of Tartar Powder. Free from Ammonia, Alum or any other adulterant.
40 YEARS THE STANDARD.

COMMUNICATIONS.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents:

Golden as a Port of Entry.

Editor GOLDEN ERA:

SIR,—As Golden is the distributing point for over two hundred miles to the south and as far north as Canoe river, it is only just that it be made a port. Goods coming from the east are held in Calgary, from the west Kamloops, and people living up country are sometimes months before they can get articles out of bond. This is a great drawback to our district. I pressed this matter some time ago on our member and in a letter of late date he tells me the Government have the matter under consideration. The people of East Kootenay should send a strongly worded request at once to Ottawa on this subject as it is a matter that effects each and every individual in the district. I would also be pleased to see the ERA join forces on this question.

W. G. BOTT.

Salmon River, Feb. 12th.

A Salmon Hatchery.

SIR, I notice in the "Colonist" of Feb. 3rd, Mr. Mara is urging the establishment of a Salmon Hatchery on the Columbia River, in the vicinity of Donald or Golden. The idea is a good one but the location is not in my opinion favourable, as salmon require a clear gravelly stream for spawning in. At present the only places the fish frequent are the mouth of Windermere Lake at what is known as the Salmon Beds and Salmon river, which latter takes its name from the large quantities of fish that year by year glide into its clear waters. I have seen between twenty and thirty tons of salmon taken out of this stream in a short time by the Indians To any one with an eye for nature it is a fine sight to see those large fish after running the Columbia for a thousand miles, many of them battered and bruised, still struggling on to their birth place to again lay the foundation for future generations of fish. From years of observation I would judge they are from eight to ten days in making the trip from salt water. The first run are very fine eating but after remaining long in fresh water they get foul. The salmon that come up here are what is known as the steel heads, a rather coarse fish but very large. I have several times killed some that weighed fifty pounds, the smallest not under twenty. This class of fish are a little late in running. With a hatchery established different kinds could be tried and the people of East Kootenay would in a few years have a home article to tickle their palate, with also some sport in capturing the fish. By all means let the hatchery be established.

W. G. BOTT.

Salmon River, Feb. 12th.

A Mild Suggestion.

Editor GOLDEN ERA:

SIR,—From reports of the proceedings of the present session of the local legislature I would opine the Government is in what is called in western parlance "a tight hole."

Just "to help the government OUT" let me humbly suggest the following: Reduce the salaries of all government officials, say, one third. No doubt the officials will not relish this suggestion, but they would not be a hard lot to replace.

Our Minister of Mines, &c., &c., &c., could stand a fifty per cent "cut," and, if he did not like it, there are numbers of ex-ministers (really competent men) who, no doubt, would be glad of the "sit." Better this than add to the burthen of the already overtaxed rancher, miner and general hustler. Better this anyway.

Yours truly,

F. W. AYLMER.

Golden, 24th Feb., 1896.

The Government's Reply.

Provincial Secretary's Office,
Victoria, B.C., Feb. 18, '96.

To M. Dainard, Esq.,
Golden, B.C.,

SIR, I am in receipt of your letter of the 15th instant, in regard to the improvements on the Banks of the Kicking Horse River. The matter is under the consideration of the Government Agent, and should it be possible to apply any of the appropriation for the purpose, it will be done. But you must remember the large sums that have already been spent upon the banks, and it is, properly speaking, the duty of the Dominion to attend to the flooding of the river.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
JAMES BAKER,
Provincial Secretary.

Donald Doings.

"Come and trip it as you go,
On the light, fantastic toe."

The sentiments expressed in the above lines certainly seemed uppermost in the minds of the merry throng that assembled in the Oddfellows Hall on St. Valantine's night, to partake of the generous entertainment hospitally provided by the ladies of Donald. The Grand March started at 21:30 with over 50 couple on the floor, and at its conclusion the gentlemen were conducted to their seats where they sat for a short time in fear and trembling, everyone imagining that his fate for the night might be that of a wall flower. Happily this was not the case as the ladies entered heartily into the spirit of the affair, and took care to evenly distribute their favors amongst their friends, while the energetic committee took every precaution to see that strangers were well looked after. With good music and a perfect floor dancing was kept up and thoroughly enjoyed until midnight when supper was announced. C. N. Nelles of the Nelles House was the caterer and certainly surpassed himself in providing a most recherche repast to which ample justice was done, and of which everybody was loud in its praise. During the interval Mesdames Penzer, Kimpton, Patmore, Miss Walker and Mr. Sellar played very acceptably a number of extras. After supper dancing was resumed and continued till the wee sma' hours when everybody went home with the conviction the Leap Year Ball had been the most successful ever given in Donald, while the male portion of the dancers thought what a pity it was that Leap Year would not again greet us till 1904. It was the unanimous verdict of all who attended that the committee of ladies consisting of Mesdames Griffith, Nelles, Needham, Jamieson and Patmore, deserved the highest praise for the very able manner in which everything from start to finish was conducted, while Mr. Bonus deserves a word of praise for his work as floor manager.

Mr. J. N. Trickey accompanied by Mrs. and Miss Trickey left on Tuesday to take charge of the station at Kamloops. A great many friends were at the station to see them off and wish them God speed. Mr. Clark the new agent arrived on Monday from Shuswap and entered on his duties the following day.

Railway circles have been somewhat excited the last few days over the report of a collision between a prominent railroad official whose jurisdiction extends to this point, and a member of the fourth estate in West Kootenay. The railroad man had his headlight badly damaged, while the knight of the scissors escaped with a badly damaged finger.

Mrs. Temple, wife of the locomotive foreman at Revelstoke, who had been the guest of Mrs. Nelles for a few days left for home last Friday.

Everything has been arranged for a grand Masonic Ball about the middle of April and it is hoped that some prominent masons from the coast and other parts will be able to attend.

On dit that a well known manipulator of the throttle stationed here, will shortly lead to the altar one of Donald's fair daughters. Whether this is an outcome of the Leap Year Ball deponent says its not.

—NEMO.

Public Meeting.

A public meeting was held on Wednesday the 25th inst. to discuss the interest of the mining industry of East Kootenay. There were a large number present. Mr. M. Dainard was voted to the chair. He said that as they had received a telegram from confreres in West Kootenay in relation to a bill now pending in the Provincial Legislature, which proposed to levy a tax on the out-put of all mineral ores, and mineral bearing substances raised or gotten from any lands in the province. He asked some of the gentlemen present at the meeting what they thought would be the best mode of procedure to adopt to try and prevent such an iniquitous measure becoming law. He said it was a matter which concerned us in East Kootenay very nearly, as our mining industry was at its infancy and such a bill, if it should be enforced would at once check all further development, and put an end to the operation of the mines which at present were in a stage of development and he hoped that the present meeting would be unanimous in making some attempt in preventing the bill becoming law.

Mr. Aylmer very practically illustrated the effects such a bill would have upon the properties that were at present being developed in East Kootenay and showing the inconsistency of the Government in—after attempting to foster mining in the province to immediately turn and hamper the industry with a most unfairly levied tax. He explained that the subject would take 5 hours to be properly discussed, but he had said sufficient to show that the effect of such a law would be most disastrous to us as a mining community.

Mr. W. McNeish also spoke upon the great burden it would place upon struggling developers of mineral properties, and would certainly have the effect of discouraging them from any further work

Mr. M. Carlin wished to know what the money was required for—in which government department. To whom was quoted Mr. Pooley's explanation that—"They could not make two ends meet," in any of the departments.

Mr. Aylmer proposed that a letter should be written, signed by the chairman and secretary of the meeting and sent to our member praying him to oppose the bill.

The meeting was then adjourned with thanks to the chairman.

Miss Connacher, of Kamloops, is visiting her sister, Mrs. H. D. Hume, this week.

Capt. Armstrong and family returned yesterday from Montreal.

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