Provincial Library

THE PAYSTREAK

BOOK III. SANDON, DECEMBER 31 1898. CHAPTER 14

HAPPENINGS IN BRIEF.

Alex Smith, of Kaslo, was in town yesterday.

Dan Munro spent Christmas in Whitewater.

F. L. Christie returned from the Coast yesterday.

Henry Tattrie is visiting his old home in Nova Scotia.

Dan McLeod left on Thursday for Leadville, Colorado.

Sheriff Robinson of Nelson spent Wednesday in town.

Mrs. C. M. Wilson returned this morning from Spokane.

Robt. Cunning spent the early part of the week in Nelson.

G. O. Buchanan was up from Kaslo for a few days this week.

A. W. McCune will be in town about the middle of January.

There is another movement on foot to organize a hockey team in Sandon.

This is the New Years edition of the PAYSTREAK. Keep it as a souvenir.

Fred Irving, of Nelson, spent a few days in town this week, the guest of E. R. Atherton.

A. J. McVicky is in town and will be found officiating in his old capacity at the K. of P. ball.

R. H. Trueman, photographer, left on Thursday for Vancouver. He will return in about six weeks.

Christmas is over and Kris Kringle has taken a lay off. He will be back in business again at the old stand next year.

There was a dance at the Whitewater Hotel Wednesday evening, which was attended by quite a number of Sandon people.

Christmas week passed without a single case in the police court. Sandon deserves its well earned reputation as a law abiding town.

The Rossland carnival management are advertising that the Sandon and Kaslo hockey teams will play in their town during carnival week.

Percy Godenrath, the Spokesman-Review's irrepressible representative, spent a few days about the Slocan mines in the early part of the week.

Alex Lucas, Conservative organizer for B. C., and Jack Lucas, Secretary, returned on Christmas day from Toronto. They are residing in Kaslo.

J. D. Glegerich, Murray Byers, John Daly, W. F. Newell, Willie Sheritt and others are reported to have been snow bound in Kaslo for two days. The excitemen tis said to have been intense.

The K. & S. express did not get past McGuigan on Monday. After about twenty-four hour's work the rotary succeeded in clearing away the snow al des and the train arrived Tuesday morning.

The Sunday School Christmas entertainment which was held in the Methodist church on Monday evening was very interesting and largly attended. About forty children took part in the exercises which consisted of recitations, dialogues, calesthenics, singing, etc.

Sandon curlers are enjoying their game to the limit these days. Several impromptu games have been played between local rinks and visiting Kaslo curlers. Dave Moore, G. O. Buchanan, Alex Smith and J. H. Whittier have enjoyed the hospitality of the Sandon club during the past few days.

SLOCAN MINES.

The Washington has a foot of ore.

The men at the Last Chance took a three day's lay off at Christmas.

The Wakefield on Four Mile has laid off 15 men. The rawhide trail is not passable.

An extension of time is being asked for on the Great Western. C. M. Acatt has the option.

The Slocan Star has been compelled to make a temporary lay off of 50 men, half its force. The flume burst and the mill is short of water.

The owners of the Monitor mine at Three Forks pay $3.50 a day for all classes of work about their property.

Write them among those who love their fellow men.

There is considerable danger from snowslides in the Idaho basin and the teamsters and raw-hiders are putting in an anxious time these sunshiny days.

The Antoine, Dardanelles and Cariboo-Rambler will be heavy shippers after New Year. H. P. Powers has a four-horse team on the Antoine road. Another team will be put on shortly.

K. of P. Ball.

The K. of P. ball on Monday evening promises to be a great event. Over 300 invitations are out and no doubt there will be a large assemblage of the devotees of the terpsichorean. Nothing has been overlooked by the committees and the program indicates that time will not lag with those who attend. The opening grand march will be rendered by Sandon Brass Band.

CHURCH NOTICES.

METHODIST CHURCH:—

Rev. A. M. Sanford, B. A., Pastor. Regular services to-morrow at 11 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. Subject of sermons:

Morning—"What has 1898 taught us?"

Evening—"What will 1899 bring us?"

Union Sunday School meets in the Methodist Church at 12:15 o'clock.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH:—

Divine service will be held in Virginia Hall at 7:30 p. m. Rev. J. A. Cleland, Minister.

Morning services will be discontinued until further notice, as Mr. Cleland has been requested to give pulpit supply at New Denver until they secure a regular pastor.

A. F. & A. M.

A joint installation of officers of the A. F. & A. M. was held in Nelson on St. John's day, Tuesday, 27th inst. Kaslo sent 20 members, Rossland 32 and nine from Sandon were present. After the installation of officers for the Nelson, Kaslo and Rossland lodges, a banquet was spread in the Hume Hotel, at which 115 members partook. A. C. McArthur, M. L. Grimmett, Alex Crawford, Col Pierson, S. A. Mighton, Robt Cunning, Hugh Cameron, Robt McTaggart and Ike Benard were the Sandon members present.

A lodge of the A. F. & A. M. will be instituted in Sandon on Thursday evening next.

Some Political Interrogations.

Who represents this district in the Senate?

Why does he only spend 30 days of each year at Ottawa?

Why does he not post himself on the lead question?

Why does he not live in the Kootenay instead of being sequestered in the distant regions of Quesnelle?

Why is he known to less than one per cent. of the people he represents in Canada's House of Lords.

Why has the member for Yale-Kootenay in the Commons not made a public appearance in the Slocan for over two years?

Why is he not more thoroughly in touch with the people he is supposed to represent?

Why, if he represents this district, does he not make a study of the lead tariff, and not have to admit ignorance when approached on the subject?

Why has Hugh Sutherland bought the Nelson Miner?

Why did he hire an editor who is a recognized henchman of Van Horne's?

Why does the miner decry the investment of foreign capital in Canadian railways?

Why does not the Miner come out flat-footed and say that it is opposed to a Corbin, Hill, Heinze or any other charter into the Boundary from U. S. Why does not the Miner state that it is opposed to any lowering of the tariffs on lead ore because it would be detrimental to the interests of the Trail smelter and the Crow's Nest Coal Co. Why does Mr. Bostock not take a tumble off the fence on this lead business and let us know just where he is at? Why is Senator Reid kept so quiet? Why do not the silver-lead miners of Slocan send a good sharp constitutional lawyer to Ottawa to lobby their business if they cannot get representation otherwise?

Glove Contest.

The Wilkinson-Haley mill in Spencer's hall on Tuesday evening was a warm number from start to finish. Both men were in fine fettle and the bout was an honest one all through. The decision at the end of the 10th round was a draw, as it would have been hard to say which had the better of it in the matter of points. Another event of the kind is looked forward to.

SLOCAN ORE SHIPMENTS.

The shipments of ore from July 1st, 1898 to date.

From Sandon.

Payne,	:	8,460 tons.
Ruth,	:	1,739
Slocan Star,	:	1,817
Last Chance,	:	510
Sapphire	:	18½
Coin	:	13½
Wonderful Bird	:	1½
Soverign	:	80½
Wonderful	:	8
C M Wilson	:	2
Treasure Vault	:	40
Reco	:	59
Miller Creek	:	40
Blue Bird	:	45
Noble Five	:	20½

From Concentrator Siding

Idaho	:	2315
Queen Bess,	:	1038½
Monitor	:	20

From New Denver.

Bosun	:	244½
California	:	60

From Whitewater.

Whitewater	:	225
Jackson	:	65
Whitewater Deep	:	39

From McGuigan.

Rambler	:	95
Antoine	:	111
Native Silver Bell	:	30

Total, : : 17,197½ tons

Shipments over the K. & S. for the week: Payne 50, Last Chance 80.

From Whitewater: Whitewater 15, Jackson 15.

Hall Mines to Mortgage.

The directors of the Hall Mines, Limited, have decided to issue first mortgage debentures to the extent of £50,000 ($250,000) bearing interest at the rate of 6 per cent. This is felt to be necessary in order to carry out a policy suggested to the company by John E. Hardman, President of the Canadian Mining Institute, who has made a special report on the property. The debentures are to be secured by a mortgage upon the company's property and are to be paid off at 105 not later than 10 years hence.

Kaslo Municipal Contest.

Kaslo has a hot municipal campaign on. Dr. Hartin and Lawyer McAnn are the candidates, and each is accused by the exponents of the other of pilfering the public funds. Hartin, who is a member of the present council, is said to have put up a Tammany deal in connection with the city hall. McAnn, who is mayor and city solicitor, is accused of the grossest kind of duplicity in conniving in the movement to vote himself $600 as a yearly allowance. For real ugliness and meanness the methods of the rival factions in the Kaslo contest would not be out of place with a band of Filipino patriots.

THE C. P. R. AT IT AGAIN.

INTERFERING AT WASHINGTON.

The Lead Ore Question is Being Meddled With.

As will be remembered by the Sandon mine owners, the Kaslo Board of Trade has done some very effective work in bringing the question of lead tariff before the international conference at Quebec.

Up to date the Slocan mine owners have been rather lax with regard to this most important question and did not take up the case with the vim warranted. It appears now as though the parties interested in the C. P. R. smelter and the Crow's Nest Pass Coal Co. had stolen a march on the silver-lead miners and are quietly using every influence in their power to block any movement looking toward the lowering of the U. S. duties on lead ores.

Hearing that a gentleman who had taken an active part in the proceedings of the Kaslo Board of Trade was in town a representative of the PAYSTREAK hunted him up to enquire as to the latest developments. He said:

"The understanding now is that the Conference will reassemble on January 5th and that the session will be short and final. Until lately I am confident that lead in ore has stood as one of the articles likely to be made free. At present I am not so certain that this is the case.

"During the recent excursion over the Crow's Nest Pass Railway, and since I have met a number of gentlemen, resident of Nelson, Rossland and Trail, who are beginning to take a keen interest in the outcome of the negotiations.

"To these gentlemen the prospect of an arrangement whereby lead ores will go free or on any terms more favorable than at present, into the United States, is regarded with great disfavor.

"You are aware that in the early stages of the movement we have been making for tariff concessions in favor of lead products we have had practically the solid support of all the mining camps.

"Mr. J. B. McArthur who appeared before the conference while it was sitting in Quebec, was instructed by our Board of Trade to ask for free trade in lead to the largest extent. These instructions were endorsed by memorals from the miners and business men of Sandon and Ainsworth and by the West Kootenay Mine Owners Association. The Provincial Government of B. C. also forwarded the same to the Canadian Commissioners.

"The ground that the Kaslo Board of Trade has taken is that a better price to the miner for his lead is the first consideration.

"It is true that a few high grade mines of the Slocan camp, the Payne, the Last Chance, the Reco, the Whitewater and a few others can continue to ship ore under circumstances more onerous than the present. But where there is one such mine there are a dozen others barely able to make ends meet, and a multitude in all stages of development that are idle, and can not start until their product can be marketed to better advantage.

"These facts are so evident that their first representation secured unanimous support for the conclusions that we based upon them, and so far as the silver-lead ore producing districts are concerned there is no change of views.

"The Mining Divisions of Ainsworth, Slocan, Slocan City, Trout Lake, Illiciliwaet, Moyea and Fort Steele will regard the total removal of, or a substantial reduction in, the duty upon lead in ore, as a concession that will give a sharp impetus to the industry upon which they are directly dependent, and that without injury to any established business.

"The opposition which has developed to this proposition comes from those who directly or indirectly are interested in the establishment of smelting works in B. C.

"The Canadian Pacific Railway Co., which is preparing to treat ore on a large scale at Trail, and which is rapidly bringing the various branches of its system into connection with that point; The Hall Mines, which has a lead stack only occasionly in operation at Nelson; The Crow's Nest Pass Coal Co., which invested largely for the production of coke, and the citizens of Nelson, Trail, and to some extent Rossland, who would profit from their contiguity to the smelting plants, are the parties who, through their organs, and, I have reason to believe, by direct communication with the Canadian government, are bringing pressure to bear to have any concession in favor of lead products refused unless the same will enure to the benefit of a possible smelting industry, and not to the ore producer.

"Indeed, from the expressions found in the Rossland and Nelson papers, I gather that there is a disposition to put further restrictions upon the shipment of ore by way of an export duty.

"The establishment of any industry in Canada is desirable in the estimation of all of us. I shall favor any policy calculated to promote the treatment of our ore at home, short of one that would throw additional burdens upon the producer of the raw material.

"Propositions calculated to have that effect are so obviously selfish and unjust that in the interests of our own country and of the surrounding mining camps our board of trade must strenuously oppose them.

"If there is now a production of ore, the treatment and transportation of which offers opportunities for profits, the miner is the man whose enterprise and labor has brought it to light.

"In South Kootenay we have been looking forward to direct connection with Canadian railways and to the advent of Canadian capital into the country as events highly desirable and to be warmly welcomed.

"Now that these events are accomplished facts are we to be losers by them? Has the Canadian Pacific Railway Co., the Crow's Nest Coal Co., or any other corporation or individual, because they have made investments in this country, the right to ask that we should be debarred from advantageous markets and be forced to turn our products into channels where it will be tributary to them?

"I have confidence that in any contest of this kind we have the support of the Dominion administration, and that a policy of artificial restriction and arbitrary interference with an established industry will not commend itself to their favor.

"But I think that at this particular time all of our local papers, our business and representative men, and our mine owners who have so much directly at stake, should be hard at work to counteract the injurious effect of the adverse influences that are being used against us, and in event of further adjournment of the international conference we must be prepared for a fight to the finish before the Canadian commissioners, and probably before the parliament of Canada.

CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF SANDON.

Financial Statement to Nov. 30th, 1898.

CASH Dr.

TO RECEIPTS,		
POLICE COURT, Fines and Penalties		
Quarter Ending March 31st	$ 129.00	
Quarter Ending June 30th	378.75	
Quarter Ending Sept. 30th	498.75	
October and November	[illegible]	
		$ 1281.50
ROAD TAX, Collections		
Quarter Ending March 31st	170.00	
Do do June 30th	16.00	
		186.00
TRADES and LIQUOR LICENSE Collections		
Quarter Ending March 31st	165.29	
Do do June 30th	[illegible]	
Do do Sept. 30th	[illegible]	
October and November	862.27	
		7168.38
BANK OF B. C.		
Loan Note	1000.00	
		1000.00
GOVERNMENT GRANT		
For Creek Improvements	500.00	
		500.00
REAL ESTATE and IMPROVEMENT TAX.		
Collections, Quarter Ending Sept. 30th	313.75	
October and November	2913.70	
		3227.45
DOG TAX		
Collections	46.00	
		46.00
	$12,379.28	$12,379.28

EXPENDITURE Dr.

TO CASH		
FIRE DEP'T Stock and Apparatus acct.		
Purchase of Fire Bell, Hose and other apparatus. Sundry supplies and repairs		
Quarter Ending March 31st	$ 1.50	
Do do June 30th	178.75	
Do do Sept 30th	614.79	
October and November	15.00	
		$ 810.06
FIRE DEP'T Maintenance acct.		
Wages and Salaries, Care of Hydrants Drying and cleaning hose, Turnouts, etc.		
Quarter Ending March 31st	7.80	
Do do June 30th	19.81	
Do do Sept. 30th	84.75	
October and November.	29.90	
Chief's Salary, 9 mos at $15	135.00	
Services of Brigade	34.00	
		310.25
POLICE acct		
Equipment, Supplies, Fuel, Prisoners' keep, Salaries etc.		
Quarter Ending March 31st	29.29	
Do do June 30th	61.05	
Do do Sept. 30th	[illegible]	
October and November	157.30	
		350.15
Salaries of Chief of Police, Constable and Police Magistrate		
Quarter Ending March 31st	100.00	
Do do June 30th	[illegible]	
Do do Sept 30th	[illegible]	
October and November	431.66	
		1774.73
OFFICE FURNITURE		
Purchase of desk and fixtures, books, typewriter etc	218.68	
		218.68
REAL PROPERTY,		
Purchase of gaol, Cost of bridge on Ivanhoe street	100.00	
	45.00	
Improvements in Fire Station	161.00	
Alterations and repairs to Gaol	298.34	
		604.34
EXPENSE acct		
Election Expenses	108.50	
Incorporation expenses	70.40	
Delegation to Victoria	200.00	
Printing	353.17	
Telegrams, Postage, Express	17.31	
Stationery and Office supplies	91.20	
Scavenging	173.90	
Interest on overdraft and loan	31.25	
Work on Landslide	28.00	
Office Rent	205.00	
Registry Office, Victoria	16.00	
P. O. Box rent	11.50	
Dog Tags	3.50	
Assessment records, Kaslo office	4.00	
Sundry items	99.58	
		1482.74
Salaries		
Clerk, Assessor, Auditor, Treasurer, Solicitor Collector,	1407.74	
		1407.74
Bank of B. C.		
Payment of Loan	1000.00	1000.00
Creek Improvements	572.90	572.90
Street Improvements		
Grading Reco, Slocan Star, and Ivanhoe streets. Screening concentrates, building and repairing sidewalks, etc	1516.42	1516.42
Relief acct.		
Destitute persons	58.15	58.15
Water and Light acct.		
Service to Oct. 31st		
Rent of Hydrants and Street lighting	2062.95	2062.95
Contingent acct		
Subscription to Brass Band	50.00	50.00
	$12,220.34	$12,220

Total Gross Expenditure	$11,220.34
Cash on Hand, Nov 30th	1,158.94
Total Gross Receipts	$12,379.28

Certified Correct,

A. C. McARTHUR, Auditor. W. W. FALLOWS, Treasurer.

FRANK C. SEWELL, City Clerk.

APPLICATION FOR LIQUOR LICENCE.

NOTICE is hereby given that at the expiration of thirty days from date hereof the undersigned will apply to the Licence Commissioners of the City of Sandon for a licence to sell liquor by retail at their hotel known as the "Thistle" situated on Reco Avenue in the city of Sandon.

McLEOD & THOMSON.

Sandon, December 17th, 1898.

Application for Renewal of Liquor License.

NOTICE is hereby given that at the expiration of thirty days from date we will apply to the License Commissioners of the City of Sandon for a renewal of our license for the Palace Hotel, situate on Reco Avenue in the City of Sandon.

WALMSLEY & BENNETT.

Sandon, December 17th, 1898.

APPLICATION FOR LIQUOR LICENSE.

NOTICE is hereby given that at the expiration of thirty days from the first publication hereof the undersigned will apply to the Licence Commissioners of the City of Sandon for a license to sell liquor by retail at their premises situate on Reco Avenue in the City of Sandon.

THOMPSON BROS.

Sandon, December 3rd, 1898.

NOTICE.

NOTICE is hereby given that application will be made to the Legislative Assembly of the Province of British Columbia at its next session by the British Columbia Telephones, Limited" (a Company incorporated in England under the Companies Acts 1862 to 1893, Imperial) hereinafter called "the company" or "the said company," for an act confirming and conferring upon it the powers of the said company as the same appear in the Memorandum of Association deposited in England with the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies; and giving the said company power to acquire, exercise and take over all rights powers, privileges, franchises and assets held by the "New Westminster & Burrard Inlet Telephone Company, Limited" and "The Vernon & Nelson Telephone Company," and vesting the same in the said company and to assume the liabilities entered into by the aforesaid companies and for the conferring upon the said Company the powers to purchase, lease take over or otherwise acquire the rights, privileges, franchises, powers and assets of any company in any part of the Province of British Columbia having similar objects to the company, and to amalgamate with such other company or companies and to operate and carry on the business of the aforesaid company or companies so acquired, or to be acquired; and for the conferring upon the said company of all such powers as may be necessary to fully and completely carry on and operate the works aforesaid, or any of them, and of other powers.

Dated this 29th day of November, A. D. 1898.

McPHILLIPS & WILLIAMS.
Solicitors for Applicant

MARVELOUS RECORD

Of the Bosun Mine Owned by the Northwest Mining Syndicate.

On Wednesday of last week the annnal general meeting of the shareholders of the Northwest Mining Syndicate, now operating the Bosun mine near New Denver, was to have been held in London, Eng., particulars of which are not yet available. It is known, however, that the company is in a position to declare a hundred per cent. dividend upon its investment in the Bosun, as the local manager, W. H. Sandiford, has sent them a cheque covering the full amount. Besides this there are enough funds in the treasury to develop the property. At the present time the Bosun is occupying an enviable position in the London market, but all efforts to secure stock in the syndicate are unavailing, as the shareholders realise they have too good a thing to let go. Several of the directors will be here in the spring to have a look at the situation.

No mine in this or in any other portion of the Province has made the record that the Bosun has, and its successful development is nothing short of the marvelous. It is a five months' proposition, yet it has advanced from being a portion of a ranch to the proud position of an annual dividend-paying mine. In that short space of time the property has not only been developed, but sufficient ore has been taken out to make the purchase, pay for all expense, and earn a surplus providing for a 100 per cent. dividend. There is no such other record to be found in the camp.

To New Denver, the advent of the Northwest Mining Syndicate has meant everything, as it is the principal backing to the town this winter. To it the citizens owe the erection of the beautiful opera house so successfully opened last Thursday, as it was the purchase money of the Bosun that provided Mr. Harris with the funds to build the institution. Mr. Sandiford, the manager, since his residence here, has identified himself with every movement calculated to advance the interests of the town. His employees are, for the most part, domiciled in New Denver, and their monthly wages go a long way towards making up the cash receipts of the various mercantile establishments.

The Bosun has shipped nearly 430 tons of ore to date, and the management starts the new year with a clean slate and money in the treasury. They purpose working their property extensively during the next twelve months, and as sinking goes on and larger and richer bodies of ore are met with, employment will be given to more men and regular dividends will result.—The Ledge.

County Court Registrar.

Hon. Joseph Martin has written parties in town regarding the establishment of a county court registrarship in New Denver, as promised several months ago. He has given assurances that Gold Commissioner Sproat will be appointed to the office and that his seal of authority will arrive shortly. The Lieutenant-Governor some time since, with a view to expediting court proceedings, appointed a number of deputy-registrars throughout the district. It has since been pointed out to the authorities that this was an error. To remedy this, Hon. Mr. Martin will have all the appointments made full registrars and have them so gazetted. Mr. Sproat's elevation will centre the legal business of the Slocan at New Denver.

In furtherance of this the B. C. Gazette of last week contained the following: To be registrars of the county court of Kootenay: Edward T. H. Simpkins, Nelson; Herbert T. Townsend, vice Edward Schofield, Rossland; Alexander Sproat, New Denver; James E. Armstrong, Fort Steele; John D. Sibbald, Revelstoke; Frank C. Lang, Golden; John Keen, Kaslo. These cancellations and appointments take effect on January 16.

NEW DENVER NEWS.

W. R. Will is spending the holidays in Winnipeg.

It is stated the Miners' Union purposes erecting a hospital in New Denver.

Rev. Mr. McKee, Presbyterian divine at Slocan City, was ordained in Nelson on Sunday.

Allan Brett, seven years of age, died at Slocan City on Christmas Eve and was buried Monday.

Bert Yates came down from Revelstoke in time to share in the Christmas festivities with his parents.

Mayor Andrews, of Winnipeg, has been re-elected by 1,500 majority. He is a brother of F. S. Andrews, barrister, Slocan City.

The heaviest snowstorm of years prevailed during Christmas, about 18 inches of snow falling. Several telephone lines were broken.

M. A. Wilson, now of Rossland, is spending the holidays with his family. He says Wilson Bros. will erect a business block here next spring.

J. H. Millward, manager, states that the Bosun hall is now open to engagements. Local talent will be given the hall for $5 an evening, exclusive of lighting.

Paddy Stratford, who was injured at the Enterprise mine, is out of the Slocan hospital, though it will be some time before he can use his left hand again. He says his treatment at the hospital is beyond all praise, and that it is an ideal spot for a miner.

Service Commenced.

Service on the Crow's Nest Pass line will commence at once. The steamer Movie will leave Nelson Monday, Wednesday and Friday, at 7 a.m for Kootenay Landing where the train leaves at 12 o'clock for the east. Cranbrook will be reached at night and through passengers will have to spend the night there, proceeding east on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. No night passenger trains will run over the line this winter. The service west will be on alternate days with that east, arriving at Nelson on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays at 6:30 p.m. The passenger rates will be on the basis of five cents a mile.

Idaho Mines Dividend.

George Hughes was in town on Tuesday for the purpose of paying another dividend on behalf of the Idaho Mines, this time amounting to $28,000. Three-quarters of this amount he cabled to the Scottish Colonial Goldfields, Limited, Edinburgh, Scotland, that company owning that interest in the property, while Mr Hughes owns the remaining quarter. The Idaho Mines have paid to date in dividends, inclusive of the present payment, the vast total of $292,000. This dividend will give the Britishers additional interest in the silver mines of the Slocan.

The Ohio Improving.

R. I. Kirkwood and Frank Wells, owners of the Ohio claim, above the Enterprise, on Ten Mile, are spending the holidays in town. They state the Ohio is steadily improving. The tunnel is in 100 feet and fully timbered. The vein is showing more mineral, but shipping ore has not yet been struck, though the evidences point to a chute being approached. There is no pinching up of the vein, which holds its own as the biggest proposition on the creek. The owners will return in a few days and continue working till spring.

Death of Henry Gatau.

Henry Gatau died Saturday morning, from the effects of a stroke of paralysis, at the Grand Central hotel, Cascade. He had been working for some time at his trade of a carpenter for Ira Black. Early the day previous he was stricken down in the rear of Black's hotel, and was at once cared for, receiving every possible attention, but could not survive the shock. He was well known in New Denver, Kaslo and elsewhere.

For the half year ending December 31, the total Slocan shipments will total fully 18,000 tons, valued at about $2,000,000.

Go to the Post-office

Store for the best obtainable in the Haberdasher line. Our stock of .... Gents' Furnishing Goods is not behind that of the big city stores... Ladies' Footwear as dainty as the daintiest and as serviceable as the best. Mail orders.

E. R. Atherton Co., Ltd.
Sandon

If you are—

THIRSTY, WEARY, or HUNGRY,

Call at the
Hotel Ivanhoe.

INTERNATIONAL NAVIGATION & TRADING CO., LTD.

Summer Time Card effective June 20, 1898.
Subject to change without notice.

SS. INTERNATIONAL.

South Bound Read down.			North Bound Read up.	
		SANDON		
Train lvs Daily,	1.00 pm		Train ar daily	10.50 am
		KASLO		
" ar	3.45 pm	Train lv	"	8.00 am
Boat lv	3.30 am	—Kaslo—	Boat ar	8.30 pm
"	4.30 am	Ainsworth	"	7.30 pm
"	5.00 am	Pilot Bay	"	6.45 pm
"	5.30 am	Balfour	"	6.10 pm
Boat ar	6.40 am	Five Mile Pt	"	5.22 pm
"	7.15 am	Nelson	" lv	4.45 pm
Train ar	10.05 am	Northport	Train lv	1.55 pm
"	11.20 am	Rossland	"	12.05 pm
"	5.10 pm	Spokane	"	8.30 am

Daily exc Sunday — Daily exc Sunday

SS. ALBERTA.

Read down.			Read up.	
		Sandon		
Daily train lv	1.00 pm		Daily train ar	10.50 am
		Kaslo		
" ar	3.45 pm	"	lv	8.00 am
Boat lv	5.00 pm		Boat ar	1.00 pm
"	6.30 pm	Ainsworth	Boat ar	11.40 pm
"	7.00 pm	Pilot Bay	"	11 00 pm
"	10.00 pm	Kuskonook	"	8.00 pm
"	12.00 pm	Goat River	"	6.00 pm
"	1.00 am	Boundary	"	5.00 pm
" ar	8.00 am	Bonner's F'ry	" lv	2.00 pm
Train lv	11.40 am	"	Train ar	1.15 pm
" ar	2.45 pm	Spokane	" lv	7.50 am

Tues & Sat — Wed & Sun — Mon & Thurs

SPECIAL KOOTENAY LAKE SERVICE,
Commencing June 20, 1898.

On Monday, Thursday and Friday as Alberta will leave Kaslo 5 p. m. for Ainsworth, Pilot Bay, and Nelson. Leaving Nelson at 8 a. m., Tuesday, Friday and Saturday, calling at Pilot Bay, Ainsworth and Kaslo, and all way points.

GEORGE ALEXANDER, Gen'l Mgr
P. O. Box 122, Kaslo, B.C.

KASLO & SLOCAN RY

TIME CARD

Taking effect 1.00 o'clock a. m. Sept. 1, 1898, Pacific or 120th Meridian time.

Subject to change without notice

Leave	8 30	A.M.	Kaslo	Arrive,	3 30 P.M
"	8 55	"	South Fork	"	3 05 "
"	9 45	"	Sproule's	"	2 10 "
"	10 00	"	Whitewater	"	2 00 "
"	10 08	"	Bear Lake	"	1 50 "
"	10 20	"	McGuigan	"	1 38 "
"	10 34	"	Cody Junction	"	1 23 "
Arr.	10 45	"	Sandon	Leave	1 15 "

CODY LINE.

Leave,	11.00	a.m	— Sandon —	Arrive,	11.59 a.m
"	11.10	"	Cody Junction	Leave,	11.50 a.m
Arrive,	11.25	"	— Cody —	"	11.35 a.m

ROBT. IRVING,
Traffic Mngr.
GEO. F. COPELAND,
Superintendent

For cheap railroad and steamship tickets to and from all points, apply to
S. CAMPBELL, Agent, Sandon.

SANDON BOTTLING CO.

FITZGERALD & DAY, Props.

—Manufacturers of all—
Kinds of CARBONATED DRINKS
Syphons, Ginger Ale,
Sarsaparilla, Etc., Etc.
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Patronize home industry when you want the best

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SLOCAN CITY

SANDON.

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Is issued every Saturday in Sandon, in the heart of the greatest White Metal camp on earth.

Subscription . . . . $2.00 a year
Strictly in advance.

Address: THE PAYSTREAK, Sandon, B.C.

SANDON, B.C., DECEMBER 31, 1898

INFLUX OF CAPITAL.

ONE cannot but feel hopeful for brighter and better days throughout the silver camps by reason of the marked interest being shown in the country by foreign capitalists, whose emissaries and agents are quietly and slowly, but nevertheless surely, investigating and securing control of the best properties. Those who have a penchant for coincidences state that every decade ending with the figure nine witnesses some great mining excitement, and the evidences are forthcoming that 1899 will be no exception to the rule. Moreover, facts multiply to a certainty that it is British Columbia that will be the seat of the next big upheaval. It so happens that Australia is laboring under a weighty depression, caused by over-capitalization, non-occurring dividends, and lack of confidence. This has obtained for the past eighteen months. In South Africa, Oom Paul is as zealous as ever in his efforts to cripple the mineral development of the Transvaal because of the obnoxious Uitlander. Other foreign fields of investment present local troubles peculiar to themselves, and all calulated to alarm the investing public in Europe. So that, after a careful survey of the situation, the impression amounts almost to a reality that British Columbia must and does afford the desired opening for profit-bearing and dividend-paying investment.

Europe is peculiar, in that it is the chief scene for the mobilization of the forces of capital, and there is no portion of that continent that sways so mighty a power in the world's finances as does that right little, tight little island home of the Britisher. British Columbia and its resources have taken a tremendous hold upon the British public, and less difficulty is experienced now in floating a bona fide mining venture than was experienced some months since. Perhaps the marvelous success of the British American Corporation, London & B. C. Goldfields, Whitewater Mines, and a number of other worthy concerns have had much to do with this. The columns of the financial journals, the great dailies, and the influential weekly organs teem with laudatory articles upon this favored Province, and the result is easy to conjecture.

Money is reported plentiful in London, Paris and Berlin, and renewed enquiries are being made for British Columbia stocks.

While the great copper and gold deposits of Rossland and the Boundary, though low grade and costly to develop, do maintain their ascendancy in the money marts at present, there is no denying that the silver-bearing ledges of the Slocan are claiming an increasing amount of favorable attention. It is noticeable that many of the leading properties are now in the hands of Britishers, such as the Whitewater, Slocan Boy, Ruth, Idaho, Queen Bess, Bosun, Wakefield, Comstock, Vancouver, Emily Edith, and several others, and these are developing to the satisfaction of their owners. No costly machinery is required in the Slocan, and the considerably higher grade ores can be handled much more cheaply by means of the less expensive and popular tunnel. The enormous dividends paid by the Payne, Slocan Star, Whitewater, Ruth, Bosun, etc., etc., are having the desired effect, and it is morally certain the influx of capital this next season will be great. Several large deals are even now on the tapis, and once the ball gets rolling it will not cease for many years. Wet ores and dry ores, so long as they embrace the factor for paying dividends, are alike agreeable to the capitalist, and the Slocan has enough of each to make it the banner district of the Province.

PAX BRITANNICA.

Behind her rolling ramparts England lay,
Impregnable, and girt by cliff-built towers,
Weaving to peace and plenty, day by day,
The long-drawn hours.

In place Spring frost her dower and showered her grain,
Summer sat smiling under graceful leaves,
And Autumn piled on the unwilling wain
Her sickled sheaves.

And white-winged hosts flew fluttering to her shore,
Laden with Eastern bale or Southern fleece;
And from the fields of far-off labor bore
The spoils of Peace.

Then, seeing Her within her waves so blest,
The jealous nations, panoplied alike,
Said: "Look, She wears no armour on her breast,
What if we strike?"

But She, of their base greed and armed array
Haughtily heedless, moated by her main,
Still across ocean ploughed her peaceful way,
In strong disdain.

Then each to other muttered: "Now, at last,
Her splendour shall be ours, and we shall shake
Our envy. She is pillowed on her Past,
And will not wake."

Slowly as stirs a lion from his bed,
Lengthens his limbs and crisps his mane, She rose,
Then shook out all her strength, and, flashing, said,
"Where are my foes?"

Then to herself She did herself reveal,
Swiftly, yet calmly, put her armour on,
And, round her Empire, sentinelled in steel,
Like morning shone!

From field and forge there thronged embattled hosts,
And that one struck the anvil, this the lyre,
And from the furnaces of war her coasts
Were fringed with fire.

Dazed and dismayed, they veiled their futile vow;
Some fain would be her friend, and some would nurse
Their hate till they could curb the might, that now
They could but curse.

But they who watch from where the west wind blows,
Since great themselves, proud that their kith are great,
Said: "See what comes when England with her foes
Speaks at the gate!"

Then back to loom and share her people poured,
Chanting peace-pæans as they reaped and gleaned,
While, gazing, worldward, on her undrawn sword
Watchful she leaned.

—Alfred Austin, in London Times.

GOOD TIMES COMING.

British Columbia is on the Eve of Big Things.

The London Outlook, in its financial article, says:

Those who are chary of superlatives tell us that British Columbia is on the eve of big things. We have heard that prediction before, and we have seen it followed by a season of persistent flatness. Not that the mineral wealth of the Province has ever been in doubt, but rather that the moment of a world-wide awakening to its realities has always been deferred by some cause or other. What, then is the new feature in the British Columbia outlook? The accession of the famous Le Roi mine to the London market.

The paper then goes on to deal with the events that led up to the securing of the minority shares of the Le Roi Company by the British America Corporation, and adds:

Let the Le Roi get its proper footing in the minds of the investing public here and the district generally will come into its own. One thing, however, the Le Roi proprietors should do. The dividends which have been paid have, we doubt not, been fully justified, but in conservative hands and with a view to the future the mine should be shut down for six months, or the output be at least greatly restricted, to permit of thorough and proper development. This done, and the future of the mine and the Rossland district would seem to be assured.

But Rossland is, as a study of any British Columbia mining map will show, only one corner of a rich auriferous British province. Rossland is easiest of access and comes first; the rest will follow if British Columbians and their friends here do not spoil their future by making too great haste to be rich. In addition to the mines in the immediate neighborhood of Rossland, there are some 60 or 70 miles to the west with immense deposits of low grade ore and copper in what is known as the Boundary country. There is a great future before that region also. As it is, the Canadian Pacific Railway is tapping its wealth by a line of railway to be in operation next autumn—an extension of the Columbia & Western Railway from Robson to Penticton on Okanagan lake. And where the Canadian Pacific railway company goes the public soon follows.

An Awkward Moment.

A Tioga youth started to take his best girl to Philadelphia one evening last week. The couple boarded a street car, and when the conductor came in for the fare, the young man dived down in his pocket. To his horror, he discovered that his pocket was absolutely empty. Looking up at the conductor, he blurted out: "I've changed my pants and left my money at home." Then he looked questioningly at the girl. She shook her head, and murmured: "So have I." The conductor grinned, the maiden blushed and the young man signalled to stop.

An agitation is on foot to incorporate Fort Steele.

Hunter Bros.

Are selling the choicest Staple & Fancy Groceries that can be obtained anywhere. Mail your orders if you can't visit our store.

SANDON ROSSLAND

The Palace Cafe,

IN SANDON

Eastern Oysters, Tender Chickens and everything the Market affords in the way of delicious and..... palatable food can be found at The Palace

Strangers and others are requested to call on us when hunger torments their internal anatomy. If John is not on shift you are sure to find Charley .....

Is the

. . Best-equipped
. . Restaurant
. . in the Slocan

It never Closes

and the proprietors aim to please their patrons in every way possible.

MILLARD & THOMPSON.

SLOCAN MINERAL FLOAT.

The Chapleau is looking unusually well at present.

A snowslide on Four Mile, Monday, carried off two pack mules.

New ore bins and ore house are being erected at the Emily Edith.

Four hundred and seventy tons of ore went out from Sandon last week.

A big strike is reported about six miles below Slocan City, on one of the river properties.

Upwards of 1,000 tons of ore has been shipped from the Four Mile properties during the year.

The Wakefield has commenced its season's shipments, by sending out 120 tons of high grade ore.

G. H. Dawson is still working the Edinburgh group on Four Mile. The men are getting into good mineral.

Geo. Hughes denies the rumor that he is out of the Idaho or that there is any deal on for the Mountain Chief.

Most of the properties in the neighborhood have shut down for the holidays, but will resume work again next week.

The Dardanelles reports a fine strike of ore at the eighth level, 500 feet from surface. Twenty-five men are employed.

The Marion men returned to work Tuesday after the Xmas holidays. They took up shovels to dig out the trail.

Sixty men are working at the Idaho Mines. Great difficulty is experienced in handling supplies and ore, owing to the bad roads.

Two men are working on the Mowich, the other side of the Mountain Chief. They have got in through the wash and hope to have mineral shortly.

Charley McNicholl claims to have a gold bonanza in the Oma group, on the Galena Farm. As depth is gained the value increases. F. O Berg, of Spokane, is interested with him.

H. E. Foster, Fred M. Wills and C. C. Woolhouse will immediately incorporate the Blue Grouse Gold Mines, Limited. The property of the Blue Grouse Mines, Limited, will consist of the Millie Mack and Triumph claims, located on Blue Grouse mountain, Caribou creek camp.

Hunt, Lockland, and partners, all of Vancouver, have commenced work on the Noble Five claim, adjoining the Mollie Hughes. There are two openings on the property, one of which is in 30 feet, with two feet of well mineralized quartz in the breast, from which high assays have been obtained.

A. Tunks and J. Pilon, owners of the Cabin claim, adjoining the Pinto on Goat mountain, have done considerable work on the property. They have run in a number of open cuts across the vein and have started a shaft following down the mineral. There is a good showing of quartz, containing some very high grade ore.

ROUND THE SUN.

Fort Steele is getting an assistant school teacher.

The C. P. R. are to give Moyie City railway accommodations.

Two Italians have been arrested at Niagara for a stabbing fracas.

Moyie City has been granted a post-office, with F. Moore in charge.

John R. Reavis, the well-known journalist, has started a paper at Republic.

The Kootenay Mining Standard is to be removed from Nelson to Roesland.

There are three candidates in the field for the mayoralty of Grand Forks.

J. B. Wilson, of Kaslo, will open a branch of his business in the Boundary camp.

The Brackman & Kerr Milling Co., of Victoria, are establishing a branch at Nelson.

G. C. Rose has been given charge of the customs house at Cascade, which is now a subport.

There is more building going on at present in Grand Forks than in all the Boundary towns combined.

A miners' association has been organized at Windermere, with W. B. Abel as president and O. A. Brown, secretary.

The Dominion Government are spending $5,000 improving the Kootenay river between Fort Steele and Wardner.

Night Watchman Kennedy, who shot Sullivan, an escaping prisoner, at Cascade, some time since, has been exonerated.

Nels Hanson, a workman on the R. & P. Railway, at Cascade, had his head blown off by a premature blast on Friday.

The outports of Wardner and Fort Steele, which are now attached to New Westminister, have been placed under Nelson.

The Great Northern Railway has two outfits surveying south of Tobacco Plains for a line to the Crow's Nest Pass coal fields.

In a row near Niagara, on Sunday, John Lawler stabbed H. Green several times with a pocket knife, inflicting dangerous wounds. The former was arrested and taken to Grand Forks.

The Gooderham-Blackstock syndicate have formed a company to engage in the mercantile business at Rossland J. L. Pierce, formarly of Kaslo, will be the manager, and he will have $100,000 to back him up.

YMIR.

Advices just to hand from the Salmo Consolidated indicate increased activity now that the hoisting plant is in running order. Sinking is being pushed with all possible dispatch, and important developments are looked for any time now, as the showing is decidedly interesting. A crown grant will shortly be issued.

Andrew Peterson, a miner working at the property of the Salmo Consolidated company, was killed on Monday by being struck by the pole of a horse-whim. The horse used in working the whim broke lose and ran away while the bucket was partly raised. The man in charge of the hoist set the brake and started in pursuit of the animal. Peterson came up, and for some unknown reason set the brake loose. The weight of the bucket swung the pole around, which, striking him, killed him almost instantly.

The first cleanup of the Porto Rico proved even more successful than was expected. Although a number of inevitable delays attended the first trial of the new mill, due to short water supply, yet in 10 days the works handled over 140 tons of ore. Definite values have not yet been learned, but it is evident that the ore has an approximate value of $40 per ton. One of the pleasing features of the cleanup is the discovery that the mill has saved 94 per cent. of the assay values. Most of the gold is recovered on the plates. About 20 tons of concentrates was saved. The Porto Rico is working about 40 men at the mine and mill. Four machine drills are at work in the tunnels and stopes, and enough ore is already in sight to operate the mill at a capacity of 25 tons daily for the next eight months. Development work will be actively pushed.

BOUNDARY.

Twelve men are now working on the Winnipeg, over 1,000 feet of development having been done.

On the Morrison mine the shaft is now down 70 feet, all in ore, and samples run from $30 to $352 in gold.

Over 100 tons of ore are awaiting shipment on the dump of the Mother Lode, and work is being steadily continued.

A bond for $15,000, of which five per cent. is cash, has been given on the Ruby to Alex. Dick. It is located in the Skylark camp and has a 50-foot shaft. It is a gold-copper proposition.

Manager Harrison says there are 20,000 tons of high grade ore in sight on the B. C. claim in Summit camp. This is the property recently bonded to R. G. Edwards Leckie, for the Montreal Goldfields Syndicate.

The Lexington, in White's camp, has been bonded to Jay P. Graves, of Spokane, at $40,000. It has a good showing of copper ore, and is located close to the international boundary line. The venders are George Rumberger and Joe Taylor, of Greenwood, and Marcus Oppenheimer, of Marcus, Wash. It adjoins the City of Paris.

Smelters Want Better Rates.

A party of smelter men who operate in this section have gone to St. Paul for a conference with Darius Miller, second vice president and general traffic manager of the Great Northern Railway. What the conference is about is a mystery. Among those who have gone from here are Manager Aldrich, of the Trail smelter; David Moore, ore buyer of the same concern; J. E. Jackson, ore buyer for the Everett smelter. The exodus of the smelter men to St. Paul followed a series of meetings that have been held in Spokane among themselves. One explanation given of the meetings and trip is that the smelter men are arranging the matter of division of territory and that of transportation rates for the year to come, contracts being made on the first of each year. It is also asserted by knowing ones that the railroads have recently made some inequalities in rates which seriously affect the smelters and make a division of business upon an equitable basis extremely difficult. It is said that the smelter men have gone to St. Paul to lay the facts in the case before the powers that be, and to urge that matters be arranged more to the advantage of their respective smelting corporations.

Death in Chilkoot Pass.

News has just been received of a slide on the Chilkoot Pass in which six people were killed. Five bodies have been recovered, as follows: Mrs. Darling and two sons, of Lake Linderman; Bert Johns, of Juneau; Harry Shaw, of Skagway. The slide occurred December 8th. Contrary to the advice of old-timers, who realized that the trip was a dangerous one, in view of the recent storms, the party set out with light outfits. It was storming very hard when they crossed the summit, but they succeeded in reaching Crater lake, where the blizzard forced them to camp, although it was but seven miles to their destination. While encamped there, tons of ice and snow, mixed with rocks and timber, swept over them, evidently without warning and went on down the valley, leaving them buried under several feet of hard snow.

Taken at Her Word.

They had been sitting at opposite ends of the sofa for a long time in silence.

He loved her madly.

But he feared to "put it to the touch to win or lose it all."

He had come with the intention of learning the worst.

Or the best.

But her manner was cool, reserved preoccupied.

Would it not be better to go away now and await a more propitious time rather than to hazard all on too precipitous action now?

No! Now or never!

With one dexterous slide he was closely by her side; his arm slid round her willowy waist.

"Stay!" she cried.

"Thank you, I will," the youth replied, and the other arm slid round the other way.

Reporters' Patron Saint.

An Anglican clergyman, of London, suggests the formation of an order of journalists, says an exchange, with St. Paul for its patron saint.

St. Paul, he says, was "the best reporter of ancient times," and, therefore, "the best mediator for journalists between heaven and earth."

His plan includes an annual reunion in St. Paul's cathedral, with an address by a bishop and prayer for the benefit of the newspaper fraternity in general.

Doubtless the great apostle to the Gentiles was a good reporter. But so, also was the man who wrote the book of the Acts, generally supposed to be St. Luke. His "stories" of the riot in Ephesus and of the shipwreck of St. Paul are admirable pieces of work from the newspaper point of view.

From now on all Canadian newspapers must pay postage on their issues, sent through the mails, at the rate of one-quarter of a cent. per pound. Formerly they were carried free. On July 1, the rate will be increased to half a cent per pound.

D. E. Gellatly & Sons

—DEALERS IN—

Farm Produce, Fruits, and Vegetables.

Okanagan Lake,
P. O. BRUCE'S LANDING

For the convenience of the trade a stock is always kept on hand in the Jelland Building, SANDON. Mines supplied at wholesale rates. Cars loaded with Produce, Fruits and Vegetables are run into the Slocan every TEN DAYS, and orders can be delivered en route.

The Newmarket Hotel,

NEW DENVER, B. C.

Provides ample and pleasant accommodation for the traveling public.
Telegrams for rooms promptly attended to.

STEGE & AVISON, - - - - - Proprietors.

MINING RECORDS

The following is a complete list of the mining transactions recorded during the week in the several mining divisions of the Slocan. Those of New Denver were as follows:—

LOCATIONS.

Dec 21—May, Galena Farm, Mrs J Clement.

CERTIFICATE OF IMPROVEMENTS

Dec 23—Morning Star No 7 to J F McCrae. Quebec to Wm Harrison.

ASSESSMENTS.

Dec 20—Condor, Slocan Bell, Iron Mask, Baltimore Fraction.

Dec 23—Starlight Fraction.

TRANSFERS.

Dec 20—Hemlock ¼, C Faas to W R Will, June 1, 1897.

Dec 21—Sligo Fraction ¼, W D Mitchell to W R Will, Oct 13.

Cupella, Newery, Turris and Wallace ¼, Amos Thompson to same. Oct 14.

Dawn Centre ¼, G A McLean to D A McDonald, Sept 29.

AINSWORTH DIVISION.

LOCATIONS.

Dec 20—Extension, Alex Grant; Tilley Fraction, W Houser.

ASSESSMENTS.

Dec 16—Murry Creek.

Dec 22—Canadian Chief, Paris 1,900.

TRANSFERS.

Dec 16—Silver Wreath ¼, Albert Lind.

Mansaneta, J Stinson to S H Leany, G Walker, W Stanchfield.

Dec 17—Col Sellers, Senator Teller, W J Bryan, R P Bland; H Brady to C Brady.

Dec 19—Egalete Fraction ¼, H C Tomlinson to H Sheran.

Blizzard, release of action, J A Turner to the Kootenai Air Supply Co.

Dec 20—Harrison, Silver Bell 2/5, L J McAtte to G Le Moine.

Glen Ellen 2/5, C F Clough to same, $5.

Big Bob ¼, B F Nesbit to J W Gallagher.

Dec 21—Fraction Fraction ¼, A Asselin to J Blanchard, $250.

Hermenia ¼, J Max Somprey to W E Mervan.

Dec 22—Iron Hand ¼, John Hastie to A L Houser.

Hermenia ¼, J M Somprey to P Dunell.

FIRST IMPRESSIONS.

Julian Durham Describes Her Trip Into the Slocan Over the K. & S.

Mrs. C. Henshawe, of Vancouver, the talented authoress of "Hypnotism," and known in literary circles as Julian Durham, thus describes a trip made by her from Nelson to Sandon over the K. & S. Railway:

The trip down Kootenay lake from Nelson to Kaslo is superb, such a change of scenery after the rugged, ragged loftiness of the Arrow lake surroundings, for here the conifers give place to the alder, the birch, and the hemlock, and gently sloping banks, small villages nestling on level stretches of grass-grown fields, and the general air of cultivation have changed the whole aspect of the country, reducing it from the magnificent to the beautiful.

The ss. Kokanee, a smaller edition of the C. P. R. steamers that ply on the Arrow lakes, is an exceedingly comfortable vessel, and aboard her we ran past numerous settlements, stopping only at a few of them, such as Balfour, where two stores, one house and a church grace the landscape, and the tents of anglers adorn the shore. The most intense curiosity possessed me to learn how many people generally attended divine service in this isolated little church, but the record was not forthcoming, and all the information I could gather respecting the history of the building was that an elderly maiden lady in England had bequeathed the money for its erection. What the ulterior motive of this worthy old dame's generosity in so doing may have been, who can tell, but doubtless the inhabitants of the one house and the two stores profit by the unusual luxury of having a private chapel!

At Pilot Bay smelter all was quiescent, and the other stopping places along the lake, though picturesque in their way, were not particularly interesting, beyond the fact that a circumstance, which first attracted my attention on Okanagan lake, was here re-called to memory by the actions of the Kokanee on her arrival at each succeeding small village. Instead of rounding up beside a wharf built out into the deep current, the steamer was simply beached beside some planks, that is to say, drawing very few feet of water, the captain ran her bow foremost into the sandy shore wherever a halt was to be made, and when he wished to start again the big sternwheel back-watered furiously, and hey presto! the Kokanee was once more gaily afloat. This method struck me as being unique, but it worked all right.

At the town of Kaslo we entered the great silver mining district of the Slocan. Here at the dock everything runs into the lake, even the express carts that come down to meet the steamers go out axle-deep into the water, as if in flattering imitation of the railway cars that at Arrowhead and Robson run down on a partially submerged track to meet the boats.

The route from the lake shore to Sandon over the Kaslo & Slocan Railway runs through some of the most enchanting scenery imaginable, or that can be met with anywhere in British Columbia, for here the mountains begin to appear more thickly timbered all the way up to their summits, whilst in the valleys the obeisance of the rich bunch grass to each subtle breeze discloses half-hidden amongst the roots the upturned faces of flowers upon whose petals still lies the kisses of morning dew. When you enter farther into the woodlands, enveloped at dawn in a luminous haze, it is to find the ground flecked intermittently with patches of bright-hued blossoms and flowering shrubs, forming a color scene that at once catches the eye by reason of its strong contrast to the grey-green aspect so prevalent in other parts of Kootenay, where flowers are more rare, though scarcely less exquisite in the few localities that give them birth.

To the botanist each season is marked in this sourthern portion of the Province by the predominant color in nature, every succeeding month bringing with it a new series of shades of one particular hue. First in early spring upland and dale are decked with snowy blossoms the syringa, spirea, lily-of-the-valley, and ox-eye daisy, blending with palest yellow violets, evening primroses and aconites; which in their turn are replaced in June by summer's rosier flowers, the wildfire, gentian, salmon berry, coxcomb, wild rose, and poppy, all running the gamut from palest pink to dark magenta. And then August, what lovely mauve tints follow fast upon the heels of the glow of the hot sun—Michaelmas daisies and heliotrope pansies, velvety iris and delicate blue bells. Finally September comes, and all the majesty of autumnal decaying splendor overspreads the land—golden browns and russets reds, vandyke shadows and purpling tones—it is the approach of winter, it is the end of the flower queen's reign.

With unswerving devotion the railway line follows the course of the river for some distance after leaving Kaslo, now mounting up high upon the hillsides above the foaming torrent that swirls along in its narrow, rocky bed, now dropping to the bottom of the dense ravine, until Whitewater is past and a wilder panorama opens up. Then the track commences to rise rapidly over a 3½ per cent. grade and the crags overhang the line, whilst round the verge of dizzy heights the little narrow-gauge creeps and curls, here over trestles that span the gullies, there past gigantic boulders that jut out over the stream dashing along hundreds of feet below.

Thus we approach the celebrated Payne Bluff where the train follows an acute angle across alternate rockspurs and trestles over 1,000 feet up in the air, and the traveller standing out on the rear platform of the car may look straight down the absolutely sheer precipice that drops away from the railway track to the river's edge. It is a sight unparalleled anywhere else in the world, for during the moments that it takes to round the point, the cars with their human freight are literally suspended out like Mahomet's coffin in mid-air, on a scaffolding pinned to the face of the Payne Bluff itself at the giddy altitude of 1,050 feet.

Almost before you can realise the awful chasm that yawns beneath your feet, the sickening sensation is past, and in a short while the train steams into Sandon, the gulch town in the heart of the Slocan silver mining district. In common parlance, and with a certain amount of truthful foundation, the Slocan has been called the "poor man's country," as there a miner with small means will probably find more openings than in the Trail district.

Sandon itself is a truly marvellous settlement, situated at the bottom of a ravine between two ranges of tremendously high mountains, and so narrow is the townsite that there is only room for one street to run along it with houses on either side, the back premises of which slope up against the hillsides, the actual level ground in the valley covering an area scarcely 20 feet in width. Should you chance to take a drive along this main street of Sandon, you cannot turn your rig until you have gone the total length thereof, and reached the sand and gravel beds at the farthest end, over which the river runs in a dozen intersecting streams only a few inches deep; or if you happen to meet with another carriage en route serious discussion will assuredly arise as to who has the right-of-way! Behind this row of houses that borders the street (please remember the accent of the "the") there are numerous dwellings scattered over the mountains, to the right hand, and to the left, looking in their perilous positions like birds of prey perched in downward flight. Yet in this curious elongated town there is a remarkably good hotel, the Reco, so named after the well-known Reco mine. Of course you must not expect to enjoy too many luxuries in a three-year-old place. For instance the butter may be a little old-fashioned, or the meat a trifle advanced, or again having gone to Slocan principally in order to secure rest and change, you may find that the hotel-keepers get your change and the express drivers all the rest—still the traveller who is not ultra-pernicketty generally fares very well in spite of such minor drawbacks.

During the space of three months the sun shines not at all in Sandon, for so low-buried is the town betwixt the enormous surrounding hills that in winter no warm rays can penetrate into its depths. Altogether it is rather a dreary place, yet so unique withal that it exercises a certain curious, if depressing, fascination entirely its own over the minds of visitors. At times the scenery waxes almost oppressive, so closely are the mountains banded together, so dark the fir trees, and so dense the foliage; for even where the rocks break through the forest, and escarped peaks jag the line of the horizon, they bear more the appearance of bones protruding through the soil-covering than an actual resemblance to the stony cliffs of the Kootenay. Here the tragedy of loneliness might fitly be enacted.

Sandon has been rightly named, for it is built upon the sand of the dry river bed, and those who on first arrival marvel at its extraordinary location soon find out the why and wherefore of the establishment of this eccentric settlement in a spot so forsaken by God that it would be a paradise of safety for God-forsaken men, for all around it are the wonderfully rich silver mines that in the year 1896 attracted considerable attention as the money-making possibilities of very high-grade silver-lead veins became more apparent. The increased output of the Slocan during 1897 speaks for itself, whilst the records of some of the mines for the past year are excellent. One significant feature characterizing 1898 has been that despite the fact that gold is the favorite, and silver has fewer friends, several of the larger and developed properties have passed under the control of British capital, whilst others are now being examined with a view to purchase, as the public commences to realise that this high-grade Slocan silver-lead ore is exceedingly profitable.

Within an incredibly short space of time a boom began, and towns sprang up in every direction throughout the district, but amongst them all Sandon still holds its own.

Close by are the Slocan Star, Payne, Ruth, Reco, Idaho, Noble Five and Queen Bess mines. At the Slocan Star, which was discovered in 1891, and has declared dividends aggregating $300,000 up to date, the concentrator is kept busy, the lower tunnel having struck the ore chute, which so far proves to be concentrating stuff.

A visit to the Payne mine is very interesting. There the three-railed gravity tramway used for transporting the ore to both the Kaslo & Slocan and the Canadian Pacific railways is the longest one ever completed in the world, being 6,000 feet in length, with a vertical drop of 2,500 feet. The ore cars which have a capacity of five tons, make the descent in an average time of eight minutes, and when the traveller comes flying down clinging to one of these trucks the hair fairly stands on end. Thenceforward be seems tobogganing slow sport!

In Sandon there are no Chinese, indeed there are very few Mongolians in the Slocan at all, and should a fresh Chinaman dare to invade the locality he would be promptly hoisted out of town, and that, too, with no gentle petard. Yet it was here that I fell in with more cosmopolitan travelling companions than anywhere else in British Columbia. Of course there were the ordinary capitalist, prospector and miner, but then one saw so many new varieties of these classes, as well as numerous other tourists, that life proved vastly entertaining. For instance the mining expert is a sort of man quite apart from the rest of creation. Really it would be most useful were some one versed in such matters to continue Mark Twain's definition of a "mine" and an "investor," and write a dictionary of Kootenese; much interesting information might thus be promulgated for the benefit of "tenderfeet." It would be so instructive too. But let us give the devil his due—mining men do not as a rule unnecessarily don overalls and pick-axes as frequently as ranchers do their riding-togs and spurs—when they go up to the city of Vancouver.

It was in Sandon that I first encountered the genus "rubberneck." Enquiry one day as to what a certain man was doing in the neighborhood elicited the laconic response: "Rubbernecking round." It took me a little time to find out the exact definition of this curious phrase, and when I did it was edifying. Another instance of the public boon, and labor-saving device, a Kootenese encyclopedia would be!

J. Marino has gone to sunny Italy to enjoy the proceeds of the California deal He will be back in April.

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A Hard Luck Story.

"Talk about hard-luck stories" d a reformed Western gambler, think I can discount anything you er heard in that line. It was in the rly days of Leadville, just about is time of year, and I tell you it es get cold up in the hills along out now.

"Well, I was broke, didn't have a pper, and had strolled into a mbling house to get a warm-up. here were several games going on, nd when I had thawed out a little I alked over to the faro layout where had gone broke the night before. s I said, it was a very cold night, nd, feeling a great draught at my et, I happened to glance down at e floor to see where it came from, nd there by the side of my right ot was lying what I thought to be quarter.

"I had been watching the game closely; making imaginary plays. 'I'll play two bits open on the ace,' I said to the dealer, and in a moment more it won.

"The dealer handed me a white chip. I played again, and again won, and before the end of the deal I had a nice stack of chips. It seemed to me I couldn't lose a deal, and in half an hour I had a couple of hundred dollar's worth of chips before me.

"I concluded to cash in, and sized up my stacks, pushing them toward the dealer. He counted them, and looking at me, said: 'Where's that two bits you made the first bet on?' I had forgotten all about it. I looked on the floor; the quarter was gone. Then I lit a match, and saw what I had supposed to be a quarter was simply a wet spot. It was originally a bit of ice, but the warmth from my boot had melted it. Of course the dealer promptly refused to cash the chips."

"Soapy" Smith's Gang.

The last of the "Soapy" Smith gang in Alaska has come to grief; in fact the last three members of it are on the way to the penitentiary, having been convicted at Juneau of grand larceny.

These three men are Van Triplett, "Doc" Powers and Foster, who robbed J. D. Stewart, a Klondiker, of $2,700 in gold dust last summer at Skagway. It required just eight minutes for a jury at Juneau to find them guilty.

This was the case over which "Soapy" Smith, the most notorious confidence man of the West, lost his life and which was the cause, too, of the death of Engineer Reid, of Skagway. J. D. Stewart, as already reported, has got his money back.

Kootenay River Improvements.

After three years of patient waiting on the part of the people of East Kootenay, the Dominion authorities have at last commenced work on the permanent improvement of Kootenay river. James R. Roy, Dominion resident engineer for the Province, is in Fort Steele and has completed arrangements for the immediate expenditure of an appropriation of $5000 for the improvements between Fort Steele and Wardner. The work mainly consists of removing the worst bars, thereby lenthening the season of navigation.

Chicago is about to build a Coliseum that will accommodate 10,000 people.

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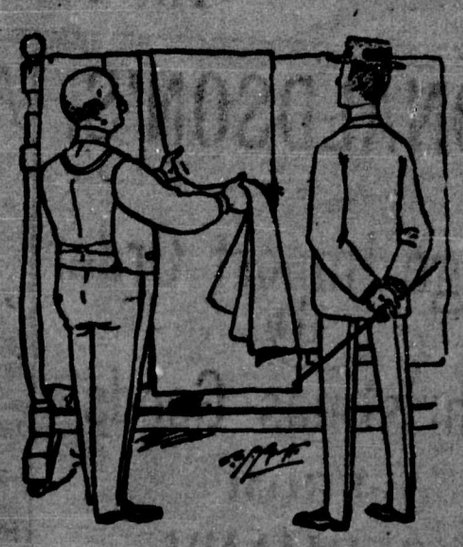

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NOTICE.

A public meeting of the ratepayers of Sandon will be held in Virginia hall on Wednesday evening, Jan. 4th.

Business: To discuss the civic administration and decide upon candidates for mayor and aldermen.

All interested in the city's welfare are respectfully requested to be present not later than 8:30.

NOTICE.

The members of Alta Lodge A. F. & A. M. will meet on Thursday, Jan. 5th, 1898, at 8 o'clock sharp, for permanent organization. Sojourning brethern cordially invited.

W. H. LILLY.
Secy.

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