Legislature Reading Room

THE PROSPECTOR.

Vol. 2, No. 47. LILLOOET, B. C., FRIDAY, JUNE 1, 1900 $2.00 a year.

TO THE ELECTORS OF THE RIDING OF WEST LILLOOET:

Gentlemen—My return from a trip to the Pemberton Meadows completes my tour of the whole district, I am therefore in a position to form an opinion of its requirements. I have endeavored to meet every elector in order to obtain an expression of their different views, and with a few exceptions, I have succeeded in doing so. As it is impossible for me to meet you all again before the 9th of June, I take this means of communicating to you my views, and to pledge myself, if elected, to leave no stone unturned to accomplish what I now promise to carry out. In the first place I wish to impress upon you that I am in the mining business, and all the capital that I have invested in this province is invested in the mining industry, so that to me the successful development of mining in this country means a great deal. If this were purely an agricultural district, I would not accept the position of representing it, even if offered the seat by acclamation, but as the future prosperity of West Lillooet depends upon the successful development of mining, and having implicit confidence in its natural resources, besides being largely interested as the pioneer investor in quartz mining in Bridge river, I am more than desirous of representing you in order that I may be better able to advance the mining industry, thus benefitting everyone, myself included. While you may feel that if elected, I will represent the mining section of the district only, I beg to assure you that such will not be the case, for I pledge you that I will not overlook ranching or any other industry, because I know fu'l well that in order to merit and retain your confidence in the future, I will be compelled to do my best to forward the interest of every individual as a whole. What I propose doing at once is to have a road constructed by contract, from the Mission on Seaton lake to Bridge river, thence along the north shore of Bridge river to Sucker creek, and from there to the Bend'Or mines. While it may not be possible to construct the whole road this year, there is no reason why it cannot be built over the Mission mountain to Bridge river, and at the same time that portion from Sucker creek to the Bend'Or mines can also be constructed. I also deem it advisable that a portion of the road past the rapids should be built, so that parties desirous of taking in heavy machinery during the coming winter should have no unsurmountable obstacles to overcome. The rest of this road should be completed next spring without delay.

The next important work to be done is the opening up of the Pemberton district, and I think without a doubt that this can best be accomplished by a road to the mouth of the Squamish river on Howe Sound. This will mean a road (already surveyed) 59½ miles long, of which some twelve miles have been constructed from Howe Sound, and as only about six miles of this road will be in this riding, it will not require a very large appropriation, Why this valley, containing as I am informed, about 40,000 acres of the richest land in the province, should not have been opened up long ago, is more than I can understand, unless it is because (as some of the settlers there informed me) your past member Mr. Smith, did not want any increase in the population of the district simply because he could not control new voters as he would have liked. However, whether this may or may not be the case, the fact remains that here is probably the most fertile valley in British Columbia, laying dormant simply for want of means of communication with a market, and if this road is built at once, inside of two years you will see several hundred added to the population which means a largely increased revenue for the riding.

The next improvement I propose is the construction of a road on the west side of the Fraser river to a point nearly opposite to the private road built by Mr. Carson on the east side of the river. This road will give the ranchers both north and south of Dugald McDonald's ranch the means of sending out their produce and getting in their supplies over the Carson road, which now being a private one should be purchased by the government and thrown open to the public.

The road to Empire Valley from McEwen's ranch to the Churn creek ferry, at a certain place is in a most dangerous condition owing to the nature of the ground, and in my opinion at this place the old road should be abandoned and a new road constructed along the shore of the river, and if bridged in places would be permanent and safe. All the trails on the west side of the Fraser need repairing badly and should be attended to at once.

The road from Cayoosh creek down the Fraser to Mr. James Dickey's ranch is also in a very bad condition and requires widening in places and repairing generally.

A little money can be judiciously expended to advantage on the road across Pemberton Portage and also on the trail along Seaton and Anderson lakes.

I also consider that the stage road from Lillooet to Pavilion should be improved, whereby some of the steep hills can be avoided and if this is done it will prove a great boon to everyone using this road particularly in the winter season.

Now let us figure up the cost of al these improvements:

Bridge River road -	say	$30,000
Pemberton road - - -	"	5,000
Dugald McDonald road	"	2,000
Carson road - - - -	"	1,500
Empire Valley road - -	"	2,500
Fraser River trails - -	"	1,000
Lower Fraser river road	"	1,500
Pemberton Portage - -	"	1,000
Seaton and Anderson lake trails - - -	"	2,000
Stage road to Pavilion	"	3,000
Other trails - - -	"	500
	Total	$50,000

Now gentlemen, it has been stated by my opponents that it is impossible to get from the government such an appropriation when the yearly revenue from the district is only about half that amount, but I claim differently. What I say is this: all permanent improvements should not be charged to one year's appropriation out of revenue, if the revenue is sufficient to meet one proposition of the government expenses including interest on the provincial indebtedness and ordinary repairs in the district, then the surplus should be used to pay the interest on a specified loan for permanent improvements such as the above. The government has now borrowed over $5,000,000, not one dollar of which has been expended in this district, but all the same you have to pay your proportion of the interest, and I repeat again, now is the time to assist yourselves and demand your rights and get your fair proportion of the public funds. There is no use in Mr. Smith telling you it cannot be done, I repeat it can, and if elected I will see that it is done. I am, always have been, and always will be opposed to the "penny wise and pound foolish" principle of doing a little improvement each year and progressing slowly, or as has been the case in this district of going backward—it is false economy and no one knows it better than your late road superintendent Mr. Arch. McDonald. I believe when it is found that a road is necessary that a contract should be let and the road constructed as rapidly as possible, so that the people can get the benefit derived from the use of it. Just take the Lillooet-Lytton road as an example—the construction of which has been spread over 7 or 8 years—will any reasonable man contend that it could not have been completed in one year, and if built by contract, would it not have cost very much less than it did, besides being better made, but of course the then member Mr. Smith, would have not been able to make use of it for a political pull. I may say that the figures quoted above were only a very rough estimate given me by Mr. Arch. McDonald in a great hurry, but they are near enough for my purpose—a few thousand one way or other should cut no figure in such a large district as this is. In conversation with Mr. McDonald he told me that with such a sum at his disposal he could make a wonderful showing in the district—a showing that would be permanent and lasting, the repairs on which would be nominal for some time to come. I am strongly in favor of the construction of roads by the contract system under the supervision of a competent man, and I know of none better for the position than Mr. Arch. McDonald.

At the present rate of interest the government are paying, the amount necessary to be paid out of the revenue of the district for a loan of $50,000 would only be $1,500 per annum, which is nothing in comparison with the increase in revenue which these improvements will bring to the district in the near future. Now just a few words regarding my opponents—of Mr. Lochore I have nothing to say further than this, I regret that he was foolish enough at the last moment to allow himself to be cajoled into becoming a candidate, knowing full well that he has not the ghost of a chance of being elected, so I ask all you who had your minds made up to vote for me prior to his nomination, to not sacrifice your votes by throwing them away, knowing that Mr. Lochore cannot be elected, but to mark your ballot for me. Regarding Mr. Smith, you all know him, he has now represented you for thirteen years and you know exactly how little he has done and how much he has left undone, to forward this district. It is true he now comes forward and promises a great deal, but what guarantee have you got that he will keep faith with you if elected—past experience proves the contrary and in any case you all know that he is a devout advocate of the principle of moving slowly. In conclusion I beg to say the time in which to make up your minds is short and here are three of us in the field seeking your suffrage—by voting for Mr. Lochore you are simply throwing away your votes, by voting for Mr. Smith you are putting your trust in a man who has shown by his past career that he has not the interest of the district at heart—by voting for me you are not going it blind, for you are all aware that during the past three years I have done more to forward your interest than Mr. Smith has during his tenure of office—by voting for me and placing me at the head of the poll, you will be showing your confidence in me—a confidence I promise not to betray, but will do everything in my power to observe and protect. Thanking you all for the courteous manner in which you have received me throughout the campaign and trusting you will on June 9th place me at the head of the poll,

I beg to remain, gentlemen,
Yours faithfully,
ROBT. B. SKINNER.

Lillooet, May 31, 1900.

Voters! On June 9th Mark your Ballots thus and elect an up-to-date man to represent you.

LOCHORE Alexander Lochore, of Foster's Bar, Farmer.	
SKINNER Robert Burns Skinner, of Vancouver, Gentleman.	X
SMITH Alfred Wellington Smith, of Lillooet, Trader.	

News of the Mines

Work is going on steadily at the Ample mine and mill and during the past week the staff has been increased by several workmen. The wire for the tram line is in place and the buckets are being attached.

Mr. Additon, who will have charge of the mill, is getting the tubs and machinery into place and will have everything in ship shape in a few weeks' time.

At the mine the ore bin is finished and the men are getting out ore preparatory for the first run. This is the only plant of its kind in the province—being a 50-ton a day cyanide by the roller process.

The Anderson Lake Mining Company have everything in connection with the mill completed and it was the intention to start the ten stamp mill crushing quartz today.

Messrs. Purdy and Johnston joining the Anderson Lake Co.'s property, are still opening up their claim with good success.

The Bend'Or Mines cleanup this week from three weeks run of their mill.

Mr. Smith's Veracity.

To show how much dependence the electors can place in Mr. Smith we quote a statement he made in Santini's hall on May 7th. He stated that "he had been accused of making his money in this district and investing it in Victoria, whereas a matter of fact he had not one dollar invested in that city, in fact he had not a dollar invested in this province outside of this district." We find that he had three mortgages in Victoria which have been cancelled. We also find in the land registry office of Victoria a mortgage on Victoria city lot 10, oi part of lot 1,96, to Alfred Wellington Smith to secure payment of $1,500 and interest at 8 per cent. This mortgage is dated April 13th 1892 and is uncancelled. Possibly their may be two Alfred Wellington Smiths, but we doubt it, and if it is our Alfred it is not very philanthropic on his part to loan his money in Victoria at 8 per cent while he charges his constituents at 10 to 12 per cent.

Personal Magnetism.

We understand that Mr. Hume has gone up Bridge River in the interests of Mr. Smith. He is a striking example of those sudden and mysterious conversions which can be expected in the middle of a political campaign. He gives as his reason that he had a conversation with Mr. Smith who convinced him of the error of his ways. This quality of personal magnetism and argumentative force Mr. Smith has up-to-date kept religiously concealed. It is too bad for the interests of the district that he did not give more evidence of possessing it in the house. As a parliamentary orator he was a veritable god-send to the proprietor of the refreshment booth. He was known as the dryest speaker in the house. We do not for a moment insinuate that Hume has taken the gold cure, but the electors can be pardoned if they draw their own conclusions. It is only a few days ago that Mr. Hume was loud in his denunciations of Mr. Smith and was preaching the gospel of Mr. Skinner. We would not be surprised before election day that he had placed his valuable servcies at the disposal of Mr. Lochore.

The Lytton mail service will likely go into effect shortly, as the new contractors, Messrs. Cameron and Hurley, have received notice of their tender being accepted. The delay now is probably the arranging of the days for the mail and to give Pavilion a regular service.

ROBERTS CLOSE TO PRETORIA.

London 31.—Lord Robert telegraphs from Johannesburg at 2 p.m. today that the British are now in possession and the British flag flies over the government building at Johannesburg.

London June 1.—Belated despatches from Pretoria confirm the reports of the departure of President Kruger, with his cabinet and staff officials Tuesday night, and the selection at a meeting of citizens, of a committee to administer the affairs of the city until it is taken over by the British.

A messenger arrived in town Sunday evening from the Bend'Or mines for medical attendance for Louis Garieppe, who was seriously ill at the mine. Dr. Sanson left early Monday morning, but Garrieppe had died died several hours after the departure of the messenger. Death was due to inflammation of the bowels. The deceased was about forty years of age and for the past few years had worked for Mr. H ey on his ranch. The deceased was buried near the mines.

THE PROSPECTOR.

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Payable in advance.

RIC. A. FRASER, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

FRIDAY, JUNE 1, 1900.

In our columns of to-day's issue will be found a letter from Mr. Skinner, which not only speaks for itself, but strikes us as being a plain and sensible statement of facts—he certainly seems to have grasped the situation quickly and we are of the firm belief that he will make a first-class representative—one who will do his utmost to serve the district equitably as a whole, and not favor one portion of the riding to the detriment of another, Mr. Skinner's ideas are right and if elected, we are sure he will see to it that they are carried out with the result that everyone will be benefitted. We also wish to draw attention to a letter published in another column, addressed to Mr. Skinner by one of the directors of the Toronto-Lillooet Gold Reefs Mining Co. As this letter came unsolicited, it goes to show how Mr. Skinner's candidature is regarded by a Toronto compahy who have spent upwards of $75,000 during the past nine months. We regret that in the past for the welfare of the district Mr. Smith has not been able to show similar letters to his constituents.

Paragraphs for Voters to Think Over.

Alfred Wellington Smith, in speaking of Cayoosh creek, said he would not spend $10 in mining on the whole creek. He is now asking the miners and others on the Ample mine and mill for their support.

The ex-member put a week or ten days in the Bridge river mining district—a section of the district he believes will not be a mining country. But as it is election time he has been visiting it with a view of trying to induce the miners to elect him so he can do his utmost to keep the district back.

Bridge river district needs a wagon road and the ex-member for the past year ridiculed the proposition and did not think the country would justify the expenditure of a sum to construct the road. Another election is now on, and he is in favor, so he claims, of such a road being built, The electors in West Lillooet know how the ex-member has done his utmost to retard the development of the district and his views on the Bridge river mining section, and all these election promises are not taken seriously—Bridge river will give a solid vote for R. B. Skinner, the man who has done more for the district as a private citizen the past five years, than has Mr. Smith during the past forty years—twelve of these he has been the representative in the Legislative Assembly.

About two years ago two arrastras were built on Cadwallader creek--a primitive method of crushing quartz. At that time a certain man laughed at the idea of their being a success and freely discussed the mining outlook of the district as being very doubtful. The man who did this was A. W. Smith, member of the Legislative Assembly, and to carry out his belief only secured the sum of $4,000 for the constructing, repairing, etc., of roads, trails and bridges. This man is now asking the electors of West Lillooet to again elect him to the same position. The electors have tried and found him wanting, and on June 9th will elect a man who will open up the district and keep it before the outside world as one of the best mining districts on the face of the earth—R. B. Skinner is the man.

"His Usefulness is Gone."

Below is published a letter from one of the directors of tho Toronto-Lillooet Gold Reefs Co., who are operating on Cayoosh creek, to Mr. Skinner, showing that people on the outside interested in the district, also notice that a change is needed:

Toron'o, May 18th, 1900,

To Robert B. Skinner,
Lillooet, B. C.

Dear Sir—I have read with much interest your speech in the "The Prospector," which has just come to hand, and wish you all success in your candidature and trust that when the ballots are counted you will be found "leading the van" of one of the most promising districts in British Columbia. You know we are heavily interested in the "Ample," which will shortly be in full swing, and should this prove a success, which no doubt it will, can say we will have all the money we want behind us for further development of the Lillooet di trict, and as you are a progressive up-to-date man, full of go and energy, who understands mining and mining interests, feel certain you are the one to fill the position and think you will win hands down.

Whilst I have nothing to say personally against your opponent Mr. Smith, still, think his day is over and that a more energetic and up-to-date man is required to attend to the many wants of the Lillooet district and bring it before the notice of the public, as you have ample resources up there which have been kept in the back ground too long, and as soon as the public begin to understand the situation, believe the Lillooet district will see a big boom, and that you are the man to put your hand to the wheel and roll it along.

Again wishing you all success and feeling confident you will win in a walk,

I remain,
Yours truly,
J. HUGO ROSS.

In a Hundred Hours.

The Imperial Limited—the Canadian Pacific Railway company's great through express between Vancouver and Montreal, across the Canadian continent, will begin the summer service in June.

On June 10th, Sunday, the first train of the season leaves Vancouver at the same hour as last year. 1:15 p.m. On Monday, June 11th, at 9:30 in the morning the first train from Montreal leaves for this coast.

The time this year is 100 hours, practically the same as last. Fuller announcement will be made by the company later as to details of the service for the coming season.

First July Celebration

At a meeting held last week in Santini's hall, the following committee were chosen to have charge of the celebration to be held in Lillooet on Dominion Day: Jos. S, Bell, P. Santini, H. J. Keary, W. J. Abercrombie and W. M. Brandon. The members of this committee will call on the citizens shortly and secure contributions for the purses. A meeting will be held later on to decide fully what will be done.

Funeral of the late Thos. Walker

Last Friday afternoon after the arrival of the BX stage, the funeral of the late Thomas Walker, who died Wednesday evening from injuries received by a falling horse, took place from the residence of James Dickens. The funeral was largely attended by the many friends of the deceased and brothers. The Rev. Mr. Gray read the burial service and the remains were consigned to their last resting place by sorrowing friends. The pall bearers were: J. S. Bell, Jas. B. Uren, W. J. Abercrombie, Ric A. Fraser, Chas. Noel and Rod J. Atkin.

The war news this week is very favorable and the war is practically over. Kruger's last appeal is that he be not sent to St. Helena after the war is finished.

To the Electors of the West Riding of Lillooet Electoral District.

GENTLEMEN—I beg to offer myself as a candidate for your suffrages at the coming general election for the Legislative Assembly of this Province.

I am a supporter of the present government and its published platform.

As it is utterly impossible to develop the agricultural and mineral resources of our district under the prevailing system of transportation, I will, if elected, do my utmost to have roads built to the various agricultural settlements and mining camps.

I believe that the planks in the government platform dealing with the construction of roads and trails, is the only business proposition on this important subject, that has been offered to the electors of this province and one eminently adapted to advance the interests of this district.

As the time is now too short to make a personal canvass of the district, I will hold meetings at the various centres and endeavor in that way to meet as many of you as possible and lay my views more fully before you.

I have been a resident of the district, where my home and interests are, for the past six years, and as my prospects for the future are so closely blended with the prosperity of the district, you may rely on me, if elected, to further your interests in every possible way.

As the recent reaction in favor of the government is so decided as to ensure its continuance in power, you will no doubt see the benefit the district will derive by having its representative on the government side of the House and return me at the head of the poll.

I have the honor to be gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,
ALEX. LOCHORE,

Foster's Bar, Lillooet,
May 19th, 1900.

MINERAL ACT, 1896.

[Form F.]

CERTIFICATE OF IMPROVEMENTS.

NOTICE.

Monarch and Welland Vale mineral claims situate in the Lillooet Mining Division of Lillooet District, located on the left bank of Cayoosh Creek, near Ample mineral claim. Take notice that I, Geo, T. Rives, agent for the Toronto-Lillooet Gold Reefs Company, Limited, Free Miner's Certificate No. 20,556B, intend, sixty days from the date hereof, to apply to the Mining Recorder for a Certificate of Improvements, for the purpose of obtaining a Crown Grant of the above claims. And further take notice that action, under section 37, must be commenced before the issuance of such Certificate of Improvements.

Dated this 11th day of May, 1900.

GEO. T. RIVES,

NOTICE.

Notice is hereby given that application will be made by the Vancouver Northern and Yukon Railway Company to the Legislative Assembly of the Province of British Columbia at its next session for an act extending the time within which the company may complete its undertaking, and confirming and extending the powers to the company therein, and enabling the said company to extend its line of railway from some point at or near the city of Vancou er or some other convenient point on the shore of Burrard Inlet, to some point on the north or south side of the Fraser river at or near the City of New Westminster, and changing the name of the company by inserting the word "Westminster" after the word "Vancouver" and conferring such other powers as may be necessary to fully and completely execute, carry on and operate the said undertaking.

Dated this 7th day of May, A.D. 1900.

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Borrowed on His Salary.

"Apropos of borrowing money on one's salary," said a prominent merchant talking of that peculiar phase of the loan business, "I am reminded of a curious case that came under my observation not long ago. A young man employed on the clerical staff of a large concern here was given a tip on a 'good thing' in cotton. It came to him in such a way that he felt absolutely certain of cleaning up a nice little sum of money, and as he had no fuuds of his own just then he took the liberty of borrowing $250 from the house. In plain English he stole $250 from the firm's current cash, and when he lost, as he did, he found himself in a deuce of a fix.

"However, he was able to carry things over without detection for a few days and in the meantime succeeded in getting a loan of the necessary sum from a private money shark. The loan was for six months, and he agreed to pay 15 per cent. a month, or $475 altogether. That was pretty steep, of course, but I have known a dozen cases of extortion almost as bad.

"At the expiration of the six months the young man paid the $225 interest and hustled up another $250 loan to lift the principal. On that second loan, I think he paid 10 per cent. a month. At any rate he kept on borrowing from Peter to pay Paul for nearly three years —to be exact, 34 months—at the end of which time he had actually paid more than $1,250 interest and still owed the original debt. He had a growing family on his hands and in spite of all his squeezing and scraping was never able to get rid of the load.

"During the last year he had fallen into the hands of a salary shaver, and eventually he was prevented by sickness from making a payment, and one of his orders was presented to his employer. Upon that he made a clean breast of the whole transaction, and his boss, instead of discharging him, took up the debt and is letting him pay it off a little at a time. This is an absolutely true story and shows what can happen to a fellow when he gets in the lion's paws."—New Orleans Times-Democrat.

The Texas Sin Killer

The negro evangelist, known to Kansas citizens as "the Sin Killer" is operating in St. Louis. He is a Hercules in stature and possesses a powerful voice.

On several occasions Vineyard's Hall, where he held forth, was the scene of wild confusion. Repentant sinners lost control of themselves. Some screamed and tore their hair in their frenzy. Others crawled to the mourners' bench and wildly cried for forgiveness of their transgressions. Throughout the evangelist never lost his control of his hearers. He chanted and moaned until he was hoarse; he gesticulated like a crazy man and stamped his feet as though in a rage, but he never forgot to call for funds before pronouncing the benediction. Last year he said:

"I can't explain how I get 'em. I jes' talk an' talk an' moan and moan until I gets 'em an' I shout hallelujah! I tell 'em of the big devil with horns that's after 'em. Then they howl for mercy an' crowd to the mourners' bench."—Kansas City Times.

Corbett for Congress

James J. Corbett says that he seriously intends to run for congress in the 12th district. Friends of the pugilist ask for his nomination and promise to send him to Washington with a rousing majority. Moreover, they contend that he is better equipped mentally than many of those who now represent this city in the house of representatives.

To the Electors of the West Riding of Lillooet Electoral District.

GENTLEMEN: At the request of a number of influential voters I have decided to seek the honor of representing your important district in he Provincial Legislative Assembly.

I am as many of you are doubtless aware, interested to a large exent in mineral property in the district. I am therefore desirous that its resources should be developed, and consequently will be sure, if elected, to endeavor to obtain as large appropriations as possible for he making of roads and trails. I am convinced that in the immediate future there will be a large influx of capital into he tProvince, and I shall use every effor to encourage the investment of money here. I have shown my faith in the district by investing my own money, and indirectly I have been largely the means of the development of some of the best properties. As the future advancement of Lillooet and the farming community in the surrounding country is solely dependent on the mining industry: it is to your interest to be represented by some one who is directly interested in mining. Though not a permanent resident of the district, I am continually visiting the various mining camps and am therefore, well able to judge of the country's requirements. The fact that my residence is more or less in Vancouver and Victoria should rather be in your favor than otherwise as I am continually in touch with prominent business men from all parts of the Province and capitalists who visit the coast cities.

I am in favor of a very liberal expenditure of money for opening up the whole country so that the world at large can see what great natural resources we have and I will, if elected, advocate the borrowing of money for this purpose to the fullest extent. I am of the opinion that roads to open up Bridge River, the Empire Valley, Pemberton Meadows and Anderson Lake districts and the improvements of roads and trails generally, are an absolute necessity

With regard to the eight hour law: I conside that for an honest eight hours work underground, any man is entitled to a full days wage, but under certain circumstances and conditions I see no reason why men should not be free to work extra time provided they were compensated accordingly.

With regard to Alien Act: I may say that I have always opposed it even before it was passed in the house, and from my personal observation in Atlin last fall my opinion is that it was a grevious mistake.

I am opposed to the employment of Oriental labor in mines.

I consider it was a mistake to withdraw the subsidy given to physicians to induce them to reside in outlying districts in the province.

The improvement of the laws pertaining to quartz and placer mining shall always receive my most careful consideration and attention.

It is my intention, if elected to visit every part of the riding at least once a year in order to ascertain the needs of my constituents so that I shall be in a position to urge their claims on the government.

It is my intention, if possible, to call on each elector in order to explain my views more fully.

Trusting that you will show your confidence in me by placing me at the head of the poll.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant
ROBERT B. SKINNER.

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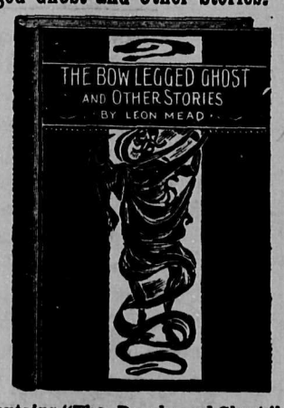

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LOCAL NEWS

It is time for a change. Vote for Skinner.

Geo. Hurley was in town this week with a special stage.

D. J. Lamore was in town from the South Fork for a few days.

John Collum, one of the proprietors of the Royal hotel, Sucker creek, was in town this week on business.

J. G. and Wm. Walker left town last Saturday for Lac La Hache valley and J. G. will remain a few weeks to recuperate.

Mrs. A. Lochore, who visited town last week, has been very ill and not able to leave the house since her arrival.

Dr. Reynolds and family left town the first of the week for McGillivray and will camp near the mouth of the creek for several weeks.

Ed. Cairns and Robt. Yorston returned from McGillivray creek Saturday where they had been engaged hauling machinery from the mouth of the creek to the mines,

Rev. J. E. Gardner and Mrs. Gardner left town Wednesday morning for Toronto, where they will reside in future. Mr. Gardner's many friends here hope he will have a speedy recovery and be able to resume his duties in the mission field.

A. C. Minty was up to Cariboo last week and his place on the BX stage from Ashcroft was filled by Gilbert Courvette. "Minty" made the round trip with the special from Barkerville to Ashcroft in 47 hours.

Rod Atkins leaves for Ashcroft tomorrow and will keep store for M, Dumond who leaves for the coast to take unto himself a partner.

Word was received last week of the death of Donald McGillivray, the well known contractor, at Port Arthur.

Geo. Kennedy, late of the Columbian, New Westminster, has been appointed postmaster at New Westminster, in place of J. C. Brown, who resigned to join premier Martin's cabinet a minister of finance.

W. Elliott, Frank Riley, Geo. Sutton, W. D. Beattie and Wm. McDonald came down from Cadwallader during the week.

A pugilistic encounter took place Tuesday evening and was watched by quite a few sports. No harm was done and the bantam came out on top.

R. B. Skinner returned from McGillivray Creek and Pemberton Meadows Tuesday where he will receive good support. The electors of West Lillooet fully understand the benefits that will be derived by having a live up-to-date representative and are giving Mr. Skinner their loyal support. On June 9th the result is a foregone conclusion, as the other candidates and their supporters feel they are defeated.

The people interested in Bridge river mines and in West Lillooet generally, wish a wagon road to the mines. Mark your ballot for R. B. Skinner on June 9th and assist in bringing the district to the fore.

THE WAR IN AFRICA.

London, 26—The latest intelligence from Lord Roberts at Vredfort station was that the British were rapidly advancing. Gen. Hamilton had effected a junction with Lord Roberts and the country in front of them was clear to Vilejoens. The Boers were evacuating all their positions south of the Vaal river and 5,000 had already crossed to the north bank.

It is reasserted that Kruger will retire to Lyndenberg when fighting is imminent at Johannesburg, and it is possible that Gen. Carrington may come down from Rhodesia with 5,000 men to co-operate with as many more entering the Transvaal by way of Mafeking.

London, May 27—President Kruger, according to a despatch from Newcastle, has issued a proclamation asking the Burghers to notify him whether they desire to continue the fight or to sue for peace,

Maserie, May 27—Four squadrons of Colonials have captured 150 Boers with ten wagons of grain near Ficksburg. They also captured a Maxim constructed by a local inventor.

London, May 27—Lord Roberts and his army now occupy the north bank of the Vaal river. His advance into Transvaal territory has been very rapid and the masterly strategy displayed in handling his enormous army is the admiration of the world.

The situation at Pretoria—both from a military and political point of view, has become very critical. Kruger yesterday admitted for the first time that matters are very grave. The Boer determination is to trust everything to a last stand on the Gatterand mountains where 3,000 Kaffirs are digging trenches. To that point every available man and gun has been sent.

Senekal, May 27—Gen. Rundle has occupied Senekal. The Boers were driven away with a few shells. A field coronet and a number of Boers were killed. British casualties 11.

Capetown, May 28—It is rumored that Gen. French has entered Johannisburg.

A Mafeking despatch says the total casualties there since the beginning of the siege in November last were 803.

London, May 28—It is said in high quarters that the speedy announcement of the arrival of the British cavalry at Johannesburg will not surprise the war office.

Capetown, May 29—The Orange Free State was formally annexed today. It was christened Orange River State.

Dynamiters Get Life

The jury at Wellant, Ont., last Friday returned a verdict of guilty against Dullman, Nolan and Walsh, charged with dynamiting lock 24 of the Welland canal. The jury were out half an hour. Chancellor Boyd delivered sentence immediately, dwelling on the horrible nature of the crime, and remarking that Nolan and Walsh might have undertaken the deed for money, but in the case of Dullman, there was apparently no motive but hate. He then sentenced them to imprisonment for life.

The prisoners listened stolidly, refusing to plead for mercy, and were taken back to their cells.

The Deadman's Island matter is to become a live political question in Vancouver. On June 1st 100 men will start work on the island, clearing for the Ludgate mill site, under the patronage of premier Martin. The lease has not yet been confirmed at Ottawa, but it is expected that there will be no objection to the work proceeding, the forcible objection which previously stopped the work coming from the Cotton-Semlin government. The re-starting of work may be only a plan to help out the election, as the reporter's informant stated significantly that work might be stopped after June 9th.

Attacked by an Octopus.

An Australian diver having fired off a charge of dynamite to displace the stones, went to the bottom of the Moyne river, and while engaged in moving the stones a devil fish, or octopus, coiled about his arm. The body of the fish was no larger than a dinner plate, but it had eight arms, each four feet in length, and at the butt as thick as a man's wrist. The diver could not extricate himself, and had to walk as quickly as he could to the ladder and climb up into the boat. He was a curious looking object as he came into view, but his companions wasted no time in words but cut away the eight arms without delay. If he had not been a powerful man he could never have come to the surface.

We see in one of the New Zealand papers that 27 dredges gave a return of 1997 ozs. of gold in a week, an average of 73 ozs. per dredge.

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