SIMILKAMEEN STAR

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LIBERAL LEADERSHIP.

The Vancouver Liberal Association decided at a recent meeting by a vote of 59 to 17, that it would be advisable to call a Provincial convention at an early date. The resolution in favor of doing so was strongly opposed by Joseph Martin, who claimed the only purpose of the movers was to depose him from the Liberal leadership. In spite of his strenuous opposition the association decided in favor of a convention, and it looks from the road as though Martin's days were numbered as leader of the British Columbia Liberals.

Ralph Smith, M. P., is mentioned as a likely successor, and could no doubt unite the party to a greater extent than would ever seem probable under Martin.

The result of the convention will be awaited with interest. It is not expected that "fighting Joe" will go down without a fierce struggle.

POLITICAL POT SEETHING.

Important developments in political affairs may be expected almost immediately.

A caucus of the government supporters was held Mar. 7, when the present situation was laid before them. It is known that Premier Prior will not permit Mr. Joseph Martin to fill the role of dictator, which position he held during the Premiership of Mr. Dunsmuir, and which he now seems to be shaping his policy to assume.

Hon. Col. Prior would prefer a dissolution and an appeal to the country, but there are reasons why this would not be advisable at the present time, among them are that the new voters' lists could not be prepared for some time, and before an election the estimates would be exhausted.

It is said that many favor a coalition government for the purpose of passing necessary legislation and an appeal at a later date.

PROVIDENCE IN RICH ORE.

If it were not for the coke shortage in Kootenay, times in the interior country would be very good. The last car of ore shipped from the Providence mine in the Boundary country to the Trail smelter, is reported to have given a gross value of $170 to the ton.

The exact smelter returns have not been received, but the check assays made by W. E Segsworth, which in the past have closely tallied with the smelter returns, show that the ore runs to this high value. The values are 300 ounces silver and $24 in gold. In addition to the ore sent to Trail, a second carload of second-class ore was sent to the Sunset smelter. The net value of this ore is about $25 a ton. Another carload of first-class ore was loaded for the Trail smelter, bringing the total for the mine up to 368 tons.

Since August last ore to the value of over $35,000 has been taken from the Providence, and the vein is stronger now than at any stage of the development. As recent returns show, the values are increasing.

There are now 21 men employed at the mine. The third payment of $12,500 was due on March 1, and was paid, and the final of the same amount falls due on June 1.

AFTER THE PRICE.

Col. Prior made a trip to Vernon recently in order to have a heart to heart talk with Price Ellison before the meeting of the legislature. The member for East Yale seems to be in a "come to me" position, and will probably not consent to aid in keeping the unpopular Prior government in power unless, like the Missourian, they can "show him."

Price can hardly be blamed for his hesitancy under the circumstances, as his whole-hearted advocacy of the gallant Colonel's policy would be apt to cost him his job when next the electors of East Yale get a say in the matter.

SECURING RIGHT OF WAY.

Charles A. DesBrisay, right-of-way agent of the V., V. & E. Railway, or Great Northern, has recently made several visits to Phoenix, to secure options on the proposed right-of-way of the railway into the town. It appears that the old survey, made nearly two years ago, has been abandoned and two new alternative routes selected, one of which will be used. The line will come in on the west end, and will follow up the bed of Twin Creek, which flows through the city, the depot and freight sheds being in almost the geographical heart of the corporation. Several property owners whose property is on the right-of-way, have been approached.

Chief Engineer James H. Kennedy was also in the city with Mr. DesBrisay, and was looking over the ground with a view to determining the best way to get to the Granby mines.

KENNEDY MOUNTAIN.

Perley Russell is doing assessment work for the Vermilion Forks Mining & Development Company, on the La Reine claim.

Pouwels and Bonnevier have been engaged sinking a shaft on their Copper King claim, and report striking two feet of good ore. The gangue resembles very much that of the Sunset on Copper Mountain, and the copper occurs entirely in the form of bornite, a rare thing on Kennedy Mountain, where nearly all the showings are of yellow copper.

An assay made from average specimens taken from the two foot pay chute showed 4.81 per cent. copper, $6.20 in gold, and 19 cents in silver. The ore also contains small qaantities of platinum, but not sufficient to be of commercial value.

RED CHIEF.

J. M. Hitchings and W. Allison have returned from doing assessment work on the Red Chief claim near the Indian reserve in Hedley Camp, and report a great improvement in the appearance of the property as a result of their work.

The work in the past has been done upon an iron-stained quartz lead where it crops on the surface, between 8 and 10 feet wide, and carrying gold values of $8 and upwards to the ton. Messrs. Hitchings and Allison ran an open cut on the north side of this quartz lead for the purpose of stripping the vein and finding the wall on that side.

After digging through the surface gravels and shooting into what they supposed was wall rock, they found they were working in ore of apparently better grade than the quartz lead.

A cut was run on this ore 15 feet long and 6 feet wide.

Samples of the rock brought to town show considerable quantities of iron pyrites, specular iron and galena. The matrix is composed of a peculiar mixture of quartz and slate.

NICKEL PLATE MILL.

Carpenters are now at work framing timbers for the Nickel Plate stamp mill, and a big force of men will be put to work shortly building the flume that is to bring water to the mill from Twenty Mile Creek.

Tillman's sawmill is cutting the 300,000 feet of lumber that will be necessary for the flume, and W. A. McLean has taken the contract of hauling it from the sawmill to the stamp mill.

A CONVENIENCE.

A checking account with a bank is a great convenience, not only to business men, but to others as well. More people would keep such accounts if they knew just how to go about it. We gladly assist those who need help in getting started. Deposits received by mail.—Bank of Hamilton, Kamloops.

The C. P. R. is aiding the growth of Canadian sentiment in the direction of government ownership of railways, by its arbitrary action in refusing to recognize the United Brotherhood of Railway Employees.

LOCAL AND PERSONAL.

George McCoskery drove up Monday from Hedley City. E. J. Dunsmoor returned with him on Wednesday.

Frank Bailey returned on Sunday last to Similkameen City.

Jos. Armstrong passed through Princeton this week on his way to Aspen Grove after spending some months at home, recuperating from the bad effects of his severe illness.

The first copy of the "Story of Mary Mac Lane" reached town last week, and has been the cause of much study and discussion. Mary has already been elected an honorary member of the Dirty Dozen, and a movement is on foot to form a rival organization to the D. D., to be known as the Mary Mac Lanes. The Dirty Dozen are certainly back numbers since Mary entered the lists.

W. Dunn was down last week from Luke Gibson's ranch, at the head of Five Mile Creek. He reports the snow very deep in that part of the mountains.

Road Superintendent Arthur Stevenson came in on last week's stage on a tour of inspection.

Princeton people were glad to see conductor Drigman of the overland limited drive in about 11 o'clock on Sunday last, bringing a two week's mail. Absence makes the heart grow fonder in John's case all right.

The grippe epidemic seems to have abated somewhat, and late sufferers are now getting around again.

VERDICT EOR THE DEFENDANTS.

The suit for damages brought by John Love against the New Fairview Corporation, Limited, for injuries received in the disastrous burning of the Hotel Fairview last October, was decided on the 5th inst. in favor of the defendants, the judge and jury taking the view that Love could have saved himself without difficulty. Love's heroic attempts to save the lives of others were commendable from a stand point of humanity, but prevented the making good of his claim for damages.

WEATHER REPORT.

Princeton meteorological readings for week ending Mar 25, 1903:

		Maximum Thermometer	Minimum Thermometer
Thursday,	Mar. 19	41	-6
Friday,	" 20	50	1
Saturday,	" 21	49	5
Sunday,	" 22	47	6
Monday,	" 23	52	10
Tuesday,	" 24	55	12
Wednesday,	" 25	34	22
	Mean	46.85	7.14

THE SIMILKAMEEN STAR

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MISTAKEN.

John Houston, of the Nelson Tribune, is oftener right than wrong in his editorial utterances, but he makes a great mistake in commenting on the West Yale election when he says: "Ex-Premier Semlin won easily as he would have against anyone that could be put up against him. The personality of the man did the trick. The issues involved had little to do with it."

If such were the case how is the Princeton vote to be accounted for? Mr. Semlin has only visited the Similkameen once during the whole course of his public career, and it is safe to say is not personally known to over a dozen out of the 58 who voted at Princeton on Feb. 26th.

The fact of the matter is, a great many who voted for Mr. Semlin thought a younger and more energetic man would be preferable, and their only reason for supporting the ex-Premier was on account of the tremendous issues at stake.

Only men of a low order of intelligence, or lacking in a decent sense of honesty, could vote for the Prior government when its record and policy became fully known, and it is utter nonsense for the Tribune or any other paper to try and minimise the condemnation of the present government by the electors of West Yale, by attributing the result to Mr. Semlin's personality.

ONTARIO SCANDAL.

Advocates of the introduction of party lines in B. C. will find food for thought in the sensational charges brought against the Ross government by Gamey, the Conservative member for Manitoulin, who recently exposed their attempt to buy his support.

The consideration was $5000. The exposure has shaken the Ross government to its foundations, and may possibly result in its downfall.

Revelations of this nature should be eye openers to the hide bound partizans of both the old political parties. Only by electing good men—men possessing honesty, progressiveness and intelligence, and imbued with public spirit, can a good and stable government be formed in B. C. or any other province.

Let us set a higher standard for our public men, and insist on them reaching it.

STRIKES.

The coal and railway barons of B. C. seem to have troubles of their own these days. Following the Fernie strike the Dunsmuir mine at Extension is closed indefinitely, because the miners insisted on joining the Western Federation of Miners.

Now the C. P. R. is going up against the United Brotherhood of Railway Employees, and freight traffic is badly blocked.

When the workers get wise politically, the dictation of monopolists and autocrats will be at an end. In the meantime they must suffer and learn.

FOLLOW THE ORE.

In the early stages of the development of a mine there is one safe rule to be guided by. It is this: Follow your ore. The vein may outcrop for a long distance and ore may be found at the surface, but this does not justify a long cross-tunnel to cut the vein at depth. By far the wiser method of development is to sink a shaft or incline on the vein to a depth of 100 feet, or better 200 feet. This may usually be done with little trouble from water, but if water should interfere then a series of prospect holes sunk as deeply as possible on the vein would be proper development. It is only after the ground is well prospected along the course of the vein to such depth as may be possible economically that the long cross-cut tunnel is justified. The object in mining should be the same as in any other business—to get the best results for the least expense. Keep the asset (ore in sight) side of the account well ahead of the expense account if possible. When this is not possible then make the best showing possible with the money in hand, and this cannot usually be, in fact is seldom, done by driving a long cross-cut tunnel to tap a vein, the value, dip, width, or even sometimes the strike of which has not yet been determined. When the vein has been developed from the surface to some depth, the expensive cross-cut tunnel may be undertaken with some knowledge of what may be encountered, but until the vein is reached not one foot of pay ground is developed, while prospecting on the vein rapidly increases the measurable assets. One of the first rules of mining, and a safe one, is to follow the ore.—Spokane Mining.

CHURCH NOTICE.

Mar. 1. Princeton—Service 11 a.m. Sunday School 10 a.m.
" Granite Creek—Service 7:30 p.m.
Mar. 8. Nickel Plate mine—Service 2:30 p. m.; Healey City 7 p. m.
" 15. Princeton—Service 11 a. m. S. 10 a. m.
" Granite Creek—Service 7:30 p.m.
" 22. Princeton—Service 7:30 p. m.; S. School 3:30 p.m.
" 29. Princeton—Service 11 a. m. S. School 10 a. m.; Granite Creek 3:30 p.m.

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Notice of Forfeiture.

To John Lamont and James Jacobs, or to whomsoever they may have transferred their interests in the "Alice" mineral claim, situate on Wolf Creek, adjoining the "Copper King" mineral claim on the east side, District of Similkameen.

You and each of you are hereby notified that we have expended $102.50 in labour and improvements upon the above mentioned mineral claim under the provisions of the Mineral Act, and if within ninety days from the date of this notice you fail or refuse to contribute your por proportions of the above mentioned sum, which is now due, together with all costs of advertising, your interests in said claim will become the property of the undersigned, under Section 4 of an Act entitled "An Act to Amend the Mineral Act, 1900."

Dated at Princeton, B. C, this 24th day of Jan. 1903.

MICHAEL FOY.
JNO. PATTERSON.
VICTOR RYDER.

a-18

NOTICE.

THIRTY days from date I intend to apply to the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works for a license to prospect for coal on the following described lands:—

Situate in the Yale District, in the Province of British Columbia, about four miles southeast of Princeton, on the east bank of the Similkameen River, commencing at initial post.

And running 80 chains east, along the south side of C. O. French's claim, 80 chains south, 80 chains west, 80 chains north, to point of commencement, and containing 640 acres more or less.

C. B. MURRAY.
M. K. FRENCH, Agent
Located this 5th day of March, 1903. m-28

NOTICE.

Covington, Portland, Vicksburg and Quebec Mineral Claims, situate in the Similkameen Mining Division of Yale District. Where located:—Aspen Grove.

Take notice that I, J. E. Bate, Free Miner's Certificate No. B98851, agent for The Portland Mining Company, Free Miner's Certificate No. B63355, 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 Certificates of Improvements.

Dated this eighteenth day of February, A. D. 1903.

a-25 J. E. BATE, Agent.

NOTICE.

A sitting of the County Court will be held at Princeton on Thursday, April 23, 1903.

By Order,
HUGH HUNTER,
Registrar County Court.
Princeton, Feb. 28th, 1903.

Notice of Forfeiture.

To James Matthews, or to whomsoever he may have transferred his interst in the "Wet Day" mineral claim, situate on One Mile Creek, one mile from Burn's ranch, Similkameen District.

You are hereby notified that we have expended $102.50 in labour and improvements upon the above mentioned mineral claim under the provisions of the Mineral Act, and if within ninety days from the date of this notice you fail or refuse to contribute your p.oportion of the above mentioned sum which is now due, together with all costs of advertising, your interest in the said claim will become the property of the undersigned under Section 4 of an Act entitled "An Act to amend the Mineral Act, 1900."

Dated at Princeton, B. C., this 7th day of February, 1903.

MICHAEL FOY.
my-2 JNO. PATTERSON.

F. W. GROVES,

A. R. COLL., SC. D.,

Civil and Mining Engineer

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NELSON LIBERAL ASSOCIATION

Requests the Government to Operate East Kootenay Coal Reserves.

There was a good attendance at the Liberal Association's special meeting last evening for the purpose of discussing the resolution re government operation of the coal reserves in southeast Kootenay. The resolution read as follows :

Moved by A. B. Docksteader, seconded by James McPhee: Whereas the mining industry in the interior of British Columbia is actually suffering retrogression through the shortage of coal and coke supply because of repeated strikes by employees of the Crow's Nest Pass Coal Company, and whereas the Dominion Government have an ample reserve of excellent coking coal in east Kootenay ; therefore, be it resolved that the secretary write the department of the interior at Ottawa, requesting the Dominion Government to develop and operate solely as a government undertaking, their coal reserves in East Kootenay, thereby conserving a steady and sufficient supply of coke and coal for the smelting and mining industry throughout the Province of British Columbia.

Among those who took part in the debate were Messrs. Docksteader, Beer, Buchanan, McDiarmid, Deane, Dr. Hall and Dr. Arthur. The majority of the speakers favored the resolution as it stood. George O. Buchanan opposed it as being on the lines of state socialism, and F. J. Deane expressed the opinion that in its present shape the resolution would not assist in securing what the association was really after, an early solution of the strike difficulty, neither would it place the association fairly on record as favoring government operation of coal mines as a general policy, and to ask for exceptional treatment for British Columbia was to invite defeat. However, vigorous speeches in favor of the resolution by Dr. Hall, W. W. Beer and A. B. Docksteader carried the day and the resolution was adopted.

Copies will be sent to the ministers at Ottawa, to the member for the district, and to all provincial liberal associations for endorsement.

The debate thoroughly interested the large audience, and similar discussions will be a feature of all future meetings of the association. —Nelson News, Feb. 24th.

Discovery of Uranium.

One of the most interesting discoveries of mineral that have occurred in eastern Washington for some time has lately been made by Thomas Mulligan on the Pittsburg group, says a Bossburg press correspondent. The metal is the rare element uranium, in the form of uranite.

The Pittsburg group is situated on O'Toole mountain, on the divide between Bruce Creek and Marble Creek, 14 miles northeast from Bossburg.

The mineral lies in a contact between granite and porphyry, with granite the footwall and porphyry the hanging wall. The development consists of open cuts and two tunnels Tunnel No. 1 is in 200 feet and tunnel No. 2 is 300 feet long, the depth of which is about 140 feet.

Apparently the new discovery has sufficient magnitude to be of considerable economic importance. There is one foot of ore on the surface. The ore is also encountered in different places in each tunnel.

The Pittsburg was located by Mr. Mulligan, one of the present owners, an old Colorado miner who has had some experience with uranium in the Black Hawk mine, Gilpin county, Colorado.

The incident which led to the discovery of uranium in the Pittsburg group is rather unique. In the lower tunnel of the mine there is a stream of flowing water in which the steel was tempered. The extreme tension of the steel tempered in this water excited Mr. Mulligan's curiosity. Knowing the affinity of uranium for iron, he concluded that the water contained uranium in solution, which was the cause of the tensile quality of the steel, and, therefore, had the ore tested for uranium.

Mr. Mulligan had the ore assayed by three different chemists, each giving from 5 to 10 per cent. uranium.

Boy Solves the Trust Problem.

George R. Jacobs, the 15-year-old messenger in the assembly index clerks desk, who wrote from Syracuse to Governor Odell and wanted a job so he could stay here during the winter and who got the appointment, has discovered a solution of the trust problem, and thus he explains it :

"Boycott the trust ! That is the way to drive them all to the wall. Boycott the steel trust—be honest. Quit the soap trust and go dirty. Boycott the tobacco trust and the chewing gum trust—and chew the rag. Quit the sugar trust and don't get sweet on anybody, male or female. Quit the whisky trust —drink butter milk and catnip tea. Quit the oil trust and go to bed at dusk. Boycott the coal trust—the next world will be hot enough to make up for all chilliness in this one."—Jamestown, N. Y., Journal.

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Proof Positive.

A convict at a French penal settlement, who was undergoing a life sentence, desired to marry a female convict, such marriages being of common occurrence. The governor of the colony offered no objection, but the priest proceeded to cross-examine the prisoner.

"Did you not marry in France?" he asked.

"Yes."

"And your wife is dead?"

"She is."

"Have you any document to show that she is dead?"

"No."

"Then I must decline to marry you. You must produce some proof that she is dead."

There was a pause, and the bride prospective looked at the would-be groom.

Finally he said: "I can prove that my former wife is dead."

"How will you do so?"

"I was sent here for killing her."

The bride accepted him notwithstanding.—"Scotsman."

Rapid Change of Mind.

Mrs. De Mover—Good gracious! This is the noisiest neighborhood I ever got into. Just hear those children screech!

Maid—They're your own childers, mum.

Mrs. De Mover—Are they? How the little darlings are enjoying themselves!—Tit-Bits.

He Could Prove It.

"My wife," he said proudly, "can keep a secret as well as any woman on earth."

"Why, man," exclaimed the other fellow. "You know she tells everything she knows."

"Well, isn't that what I said?"

Cockney.

"That Englishman Simkins is very well fixed, isn't he?" inquired Polk.

"Well," replied Jolk, "some people think so, but I know he hasn't a bit of property he can call his own."

"Nonsense! He lives in his own house."

"That may be, but he calls it 'is hown."—Philadelphia Press.

"Poor man!" said the lady visitor, addressing one of the inmates of the insane asylum, "don't you often feel very sad to be shut up here?" "Oh, no," the patient answered. "The lunatics who come to look at us are very amusing."—Ex.

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