Princeton First, Last and Always.

SIMILKAMEEN STAR

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MINES AND MINING

Dredging for Gold at Granite Creek to be Undertaken Immediately

By Spokane Capitalists—Platinum at Champion Creek—Coal Mining—Placer Diggings.

The old historic mining town of Granite will this summer likely be the scene of considerable mining activity. Last week W. C. Weeks and Burton S. Adams arrived from Spokane and proceeded to Granite Creek, where they made an examination of the creek for the purpose of ascertaining the possibilities for saving the gold in the creek by dredging. They were well pleased with the prospects for successful operations and one mile of ground was staked, half of which is on Granite Creek from the mouth up and half a mile on the Tulameen river from the Granite Creek bridge down the river. On the return of these gentlemen from Spokane shortly a dredge costing some $10 0 0 will be constructed and mining operations commenced. Mr Weeks claims he can build a dredge for this sum that will pick up and save everything to bedrock.

During the big gold excitement and stampede to Granite Creek during 1885-1886 this same ground was held and operated by the Mainland Placer Mining Co, which during the the year or so it was yielded handsome returns. Platinum was also found but at that time no one seemed to know anything about the metal and it was not sought for. The placer diggings giving out the property was abandoned, and later on it was taken up by the Boston Mining Co. This company endeavored to work it by a bedrock flume but they were swept out of business by the water after spendine considerable money without avail. It is generally understood that this property contains enormously rich pot-holes and if Mr. Weeks can work it with his dredge he should reap a rich reward in both gold and platinum.

These operations will be watched with a great deal of interest by people in this vicinity, as other ground will be worked if this venture proves successful.

CHAMPION CREEK.

Dan Coutenay returned last week from a trip to Champion creek, where he is interested in a group of platinum claims, several of which are under bond to Colorado capitalists. The trip was made for the purpose of investigating the amount of snow there at present and getting the camp in readiness for resuming operations. Dan reports only about three feet of snow at present and says he will have a force of men working on the ground by April 1st and is of the opinion that there will be big things doing in these platinum fields the coming summer. He states that Bert and C. Thomas, J. R. Campbell, W. H. Guthrie, and Mrs. James, who hold platinum claims on Coutenay mountain, have bonded their properties to New York parties in prices ranging from $10,000 to $20,000 apiece.

BEAR CREEK.

Albert Johnson, foreman at the Swede group on Bear creek, which property is under bond to the Granby people, was in town the first of the week. He has worked about seven men all winter sinking and drifting and says the results obtained have come up to the most sanguine expectations, large quantities of good ore being opened up.

COLLINS GULCH.

The Collins Gulch Coal Co. are so well pleased with the result of their recent development work which showed a large body of coal of the first quality, that they intend to start a big working tunnel at once and the mine will be fully opened up, giving employment to quite a force of men.

FROM HAZELTON.

Reports from Hazelton regarding the recent rich strike of placer diggings on the Finlay river, in north-eastern British Columbia, show that it is not uncommon to wash gravel which goes from $1 to $3 a pan and that there is an enormous area of auriferous country which will pay prospecting. Prospectors are rushing in from Hazelton and indications are that the stampede will rival that of the Klondike a few years ago.

A PAINFUL INJURY.

Albert Johnson, foreman at the Swede group mining camp on Bear creek, met with a painful accident yesterday that will confine him to the house for a fortnight. Mr. Johnson had been in Princeton purchasing supplies for the camp, leaving here yesterday morning. After passing Granite Creek, and near Rabbitt's ranch, he was walking behind the wagon carrying his supplies when his foot got caught in a rut in the frozen ground, causing him to stumble and fall to the ground. On trying to rise Mr. Johnson found he was unable to do so, and an examination showed the ankle had been dislocated. The sufferer was conveyed back to Princeton arriving last evening. Dr. Schon was summoned and the injured member set in plaster paris. Mr. Johnson's many friends will be sorry to learn of his misfortune and wish him a speedy recovery. He will be made comfortable at the cottage of C. Willarson and P. Johnson where his brother Oddfellows are looking after his welfare.

W. J. Henderson, of Tulameen, is in town.

LOCAL AND GENERAL

Big Appropriation for Similkameen District==Natal Act Adjudged Inoperative

By Chief Justice and Full Court—Appeal to Privy Council—People Passing.

The Nicola Herald has moved from the town of Nicola to Merritt, the town recently sprung up at the Diamond Vale Coal Co.'s mines.

Jack Crowley left last week for Otter Flat, where he will be employed on the Colin's Gulch coal mines now under development.

Mr. Springett, part owner in the Allison townsite, was in Princeton last week.

Jim Hill leaves for Vancouver and Prince Rupert tomorrow. He has every confidence in the ultimate prosperity of the Similkameen and will come back later.

Dr. Schon has removed to Wm. S. Wilson's new house at the foot of Billiter avenue, near the Tulameen river.

W. Britton left yesterday for the coast where he will visit for a fortnight or so.

French & Day's tinsmith shop has received a new coat of paint. There are other places in town that a little paint wouldn't hurt.

The Full Court sitting at Victoria the other day sustained Chief Justice Hunter's decision re the Bowser Natal Act, finding it inoperative against the Japanese. Now Attorney-General Bowser, he of Napoleonic attitudes, signifies his intention of taking the case to the Privy Council.

Everything is in shape for the "Leap Year" dance to be held on Friday evening next. A good time is promised so be sure and attend.

Board of Trade meets tomorrow evening at 8 o'clock.

Messrs. Uhler and Cox, who own a promising group of copper claims on Five-Mile creek, returned on Saturday to prosecute development work, after having spent the winter at Olalla.

Although the Star has not been favored with an advance copy of the provincial estimates, it is learned that $40,000 has been secured by Mr. Shatford, M.P P., for this district. $4,000 has been set aside for the Bear creek road, and $10,000 for Twenty Mile creek road at Hedley. The end of the fiscal year having been changed to several months earlier than usual this money should be available early in the year when road work can be prosecuted to the best advantage.

The Star is indebted to the Carswell Co., Ltd., the well known publishers of Toronto, for a copy of Mr. Justice Martin's work entitled "Mining and Water Cases of British Columbia." with statutes. This work contains all the reports of ming cases and of water clauses consolidation act cases of British Columbia from the earliest time up to the 1st Jan., 1908, in all the courts and from the trial up to the Privy Council. The learned judge has in a most comprehensive and lucid manner compiled a book that will undoubtedly prove a valuable asset to the libraries of the legal fraternity. In fact anyone interested in mining should secure the work. Price $7 50.

LAND LAW CHANGES.

The bill introduced by the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works to amend and consolidate laws affecting Crown lands, makes quite a few changes with respect to the land and water laws of the province. With respect to the pre-emption of surveyed land, wherein it is specified that the applicant must make a declaration as to the land, the following provision is added:

Provided, however, that in cases of the survey of lands by the Crown, or of lands the survey of which has been gazetted, in which the area of a lot, or of a sub division of a township, exceeds one hundred and sixty acres, the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works shall have power to permit of a pre-emptor recording such lot or sub-division, but such excess area shall in no case be more than twenty acres:

Provided further, that any person desiring to pre-empt in a quarter section of land being a sub-division of a townsite, or a portion of a surveyed lot, the survey of which has been gazetted, must confine such application to one particular quarter of such section or lot, or legal sub-division thereof, and shall not be permitted to include any portion of another quarter section, or lot, or any additional land outside the boundaries thereof.

ARE YOU A VOTER?

If your name is not on the voters list have it attended to at once. A court of revision will be held at Fairview on May 6th and in order to be properly registered at this time your name must be in the registrar's hands at Fairview by the 30th of March. If you fail to do so you will be disfranchised should an election take place within the next six months.

A. E. Howse, head of the A. E. Howse Co., Ltd., arrived today from Nicola on an inspection trip of his Princeton interests.

The Dominion Railway Commission will be increased to six members and telephones and telegraphs will come under its supervision.

Rev. Mr. Conn is expected back from the coast first of next week.

The Similkameen Star

B. STONE KENNEDY
Editor and Proprietor.

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WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4, 1908.

THE BUDGET.

While British Columbia is to be congratulated on the general state of trade and industry as disclosed in the figures quoted by Mr. Tatlow in his budget speech, says the World, we are by no means sure that the Government can take much credit for the financial statement presented. We learn that there is a surplus of $1,200,000, but that on the other hand over one-third of the revenue, or $1,600,000, is derived from land sales, timber licences and timber royalties. As we have pointed out before, the money received from these sources is not an addition to the assets of the Province. It is simply the proceeds of the sale of part of the public estate and, while in a country like British Columbia it is proper to dispose of the public estate as the opportunity of turning it over to those who will make it productive arises, it is questionable financing to sell large portions of it to speculators who will reap most ot the advantage in order to show a big surplus and a reduction of the public debt. The increase in timber royalties and licences is over half a million and the increase in land sales nearly as much, so that almost the whole of the surplus is accounted for by the surrender of provincial property nearly all of which is at this moment in the hands of speculators. In no other case is there any such extraordinary increase in revenue and we are therefore compelled to reach the conclusion that, had there been no sale of Point Grey lands and had the reserve been placed on the timber before so many million acres were staked, the provincial balance-sheet would have shown something very like a deficit instead of the boasted surplus.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

Chief Justice Hunter has given his decision that the Natal Act just passed is inoperative against the Japanese. Attorney-General Bowser, the windy member of the McBride Government, knew this all along, but he had to play the game. Surely the intelligent electors of British Columbia are "onto" this hydra-headed bunch of political tricksters at Victoria, who cry aloud with one tongue for a white man's country and with the other lap the anatomy of the big corporations which employ Orientals at the expense of the white man.

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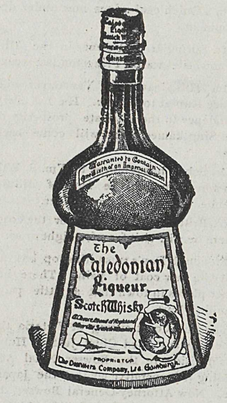

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NOTICE.

CERTIFICATE OF IMPROVEMENTS

King Solomon mineral claim, situate in the Similkameen mining division of Yale district. Where located: On Copper mountain.

Take notice that I, F. W. Groves, acting as agent for C. M. Snowden free miners certificate No. 129431, and E. E. Burr free miners certificate No. B73602, 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 claim.

And further take notice that action, under section 37, must be commenced befoae the issuance of such Certificate of Improvements.

Dated this 16th day of December, 1907. 49-9

NOTICE.

Certificate of Improvements.

"Nero" fraction, "Lone Star" fraction, "Adelaide" fraction "Dividend," "Smuggler," "Johnston," "Enterprise," "Ophir" mineral claims, situate in the Similkameen Division of Yale district. Where located: Copper mountain.

Take notice that Charles Willerson, agent for Charles Willarson F.M.C. No. B3997; Peter Johnson, F.M.C. No. B3998; John Crowley, F.M.C. No. B3993; Robert Cramer, F.M.C. No. B3469, 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 claim.

And further take notice that action under section 37, must be commenced before the issuance of such Certificate of Improvements

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2-10

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Wm. J. Henderson
PRORIETOR

NOTICE.

Certificate of Improvements.

"Freddie B" and "Rambler" mineral claims, situate in the Similkameen mining division of Yale district. Where located: On Five-Mile creek.

Take notice that I, Luke Gibson, Free Miner's Certificate No. B9468, 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 claim.

And further take notice that action, under section 37, must be commenced before the issuance of such Certificate of Improvements.

Dated this 12th day of February, A.D. 1908. 8-16

SEALED TENDERS, addressed to the Postmaster-General, will be received at Ottawa until noon, on Friday, the 20th March, for the conveyance of His Majesty's mails, on a proposed contract for four years, 3, 6 and 6 times respectively per week each way, between Penticton and Keremeos station; Hedley and Keremeos station, and Hedley and Princeton, from the Postmaster-General's pleasure.

Printed notices containing further information as to conditions of proposed contract may be seen and blank forms of tender may be obtained at the Postoffices of Penticton, Keremeos Centre, Keremeos Station, Hedley and Princeton, and at the office of the Postoffice Inspector.

JOHN R. GREENFIELD,
Postoffice Inspector.
Postoffice Inspector's Office,
Vancouver, B. C., 7th Feb., 1908. 8-12

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