

BELLA COOLA

COURIER

WEATHER REPORT FOR DECEMBER.
Compiled by Mr. C. H. Urseth, of the Bella Coola Observatory.
Temperature: Maximum, 37. Minimum, 29.
Highest Max. (3rd) 48. Lowest Min. (30th) 13.
Rainfall, 2.98 inches. Snow, 21 inches.
Rainfall for the year (1915) 34.33 inches.

VOL. 4—NO. 13

BELLA COOLA, B. C., SATURDAY, JANUARY 15, 1916.

\$1.00 a Year

Austrians Capture Mount Lovcen

Now Command the Whole of the Adriatic

Vienna, Jan. 11.—The capture of Lovcen, on the western Montenegrin frontier, by Austrian forces was announced by the war office tonight. Berne, in the interior of Montenegro on the river Lim, also has been taken.

In the capture of Lovcen, a mountain 5,770 feet high, the Austrians have in their possession a Montenegrin stronghold that stood as a menace to their naval base at Cattaro, in southern Dalmatia. Lovcen also is only about six and a half miles to the west of Cetinje the Montenegrin capital.

London, Jan. 11.—The capture of Mount Lovcen by the Austrians has not yet been admitted by Montenegrins. If the reports are true the loss will cause great disappointment to Italy because the Austrians would thus command the whole of the Adriatic.

Montenegrins Defend Well

Cetinje, Jan. 11.—The Austrian offensive in overwhelming numbers continues. They have lost enormous numbers attacking the Montenegrin positions, but have been repulsed several times.

Greek Soldiers Killed

Paris, Jan. 11.—News received from trustworthy sources is to the effect that soldiers of the 27th Bulgarian regiment attacked the Greek troops at the frontier near Westrina, and tried to occupy two frontier posts. The encounter, says the Temps Saloniki correspondent, continued for six hours and artillery on both sides was used. Two Greek soldiers were killed and several wounded, the losses of the Bulgarians were more serious.

Italians Defeat Bulgarians

Rome, Jan. 11.—Italian army defeats Bulgarians near Alesso, Albania. A considerable number of prisoners were taken. A large Serbian army is also operating thirty miles north of the Italians, Italy is rushing reinforcements.

Aeroplanes Bomb Sofia

Saloniki, Jan. 11.—A number of Bulgarian priests were arrested on Sunday at a Bulgarian church. They were taken to the Allied base by a detachment of troops of the Entente powers.

The concentration of Austro-German troops at Monastir is confirmed.

A flotilla of French aeroplanes dropped bombs on Sofia causing considerable damage.

Germans Evacuate Forward Bases in East

London, Jan. 11.—The Austro-Germans are said to have abandoned the hope of recapturing the territory lost in the recent fighting, according to the Morning Post's Petrograd correspondent, and as a result of Russian pressure a general evacuation of the forward bases by both Germans and Austrians is proceeding vigorously. For months past, adds the correspondent, they have been accumulating munitions and stores for a spring advance. Vladimir-Volhynskiy was the forward base of the Austrian armies, and Kovel of the German armies; the Kovel magazines are now being evacuated to Chelm, and the Vladimir-Volhynskiy magazines to Sodal.

The Dvinsk correspondent of the Bourse Gazette reports that the Germans have also begun the evacuation of Poniewesch in the Baltic provinces.

Desperate Fighting for Czartorysk

Petrograd, Jan. 11.—Struggle for the possession of Czartorysk is continuing with unabated fury, fierce fighting in the streets occurred on the several occasions when the town changed hands. The efforts of the Germans to outflank the Russians at Bayan frontier, east of Czernowitz, to thus relieve pressure at the latter place was checked.

Mexican Bandits Kill Fifteen Americans

El Paso, January 11.—Fifteen Americans employed by the American Smelting & Refining Co., Chihuahua, were taken off a train today and shot by Villa bandits.

The corporation known as the Bella Coola General Hospital held its annual meeting at the Colony Hall, Hagensborg, on Tuesday, January 11th, at 1:30 p. m. In spite of the severe weather conditions the meeting was largely attended and the various matters brought up were discussed with interest. The following officers were elected for the year 1916:

A. C. Christensen, chairman, H. G. Anderson, secretary. M. B. Christensen, Mrs. B. F. Jacobsen. Dr. Sutherland, medical superintendent.

In referring to the meeting of the Bella Coola Hospital mention should be made of the unanimous expressions of gratitude to Mr. and Mrs. Sutherland and Mrs. Saugstad for their successful efforts in placing that institution in the position of a live concern. After many days it is a matter of gratification to the whole community that we at last have a home for our sick.

Mr. C. Lancaster will conduct the services at the Lower Bella Coola schoolhouse tomorrow at 11 a. m. If the weather should prove very boisterous it is probable the meeting will be declared off.

Rev. W. H. Gibson will preach at the Mackenzie schoolhouse tomorrow evening at 7:30.

Jottings of Bella Coola and District

S. S. Venture arrived on her northbound trip January 6th at 7 p. m. Her passenger list for our place was not long. Our schoolteachers, Miss K. Hallowes and Miss Blanche Balkwill, returned after spending the holidays at Vancouver.

School opened at the townsite on January 3 with Mrs. Anderson as teacher. She took charge of the school until the return of Miss Balkwill.

The weather showed unusual tendencies at the beginning of the week. The thermometer dropped down to ten or more below zero. A strong wind prevailed at the same time and made the cold so penetrating that ordinary people suspended outdoor work.

The new sawmill which had started to cut its first logs had to stop as it was found impossible to operate it on account of the severe cold.

The school at Hagensborg remained closed while the cold wind lasted, it being well nigh impossible for the children to face the cold blasts.

We are in receipt of a letter from Rev. T. C. Colwell in which he says:

"Please express my appreciation to the people of Bella Coola, Lower Bella Coola and others who contributed so generously to the success of the bazaar held by the Ladies' Aid. In view of the many calls upon their generosity; they have done splendidly. I congratulate the officers and members of the 'Aid' that the results have been so gratifying."

The same letter conveys the information that Randolph Saugstad, Ed. Grant and A. F. Gothard are at Comox in the Comox-Atlin Battalion and are getting along nicely. Mr. Colwell has organized a service for the recruits on Sunday evenings in the barracks and they have been very well attended. The men enjoy the singing which forms a good part of the service. The piano helps out and they have a fine violinist to accompany.

They had a splendid Christmas in the barracks, an account of which Mr. Colwell promises to send later.

The 102nd Battalion, C. E. F., occupying temporary quarters at Comox, organized a society on December 21st for social entertainment and sports; a piano has been rented and installed; already some excellent musical talent has revealed itself, both vocal and instrumental, auguring well for a most enjoyable season. Music is being purchased and games organized.

A concert is to be given by the Battalion at New Year and we anticipate in the near future to have a basket ball team which will prove no mean opponent for all comers; we also hope to have a strong association football team.

The officials are: Acting-corporal J. W. Barker; Sergt. J. B. Langford; Privates T. C. Colwell, R. Saugstad, F. Montgomery, J.

Dick, C. B. Kirby, R. Simmers.

The new saw mill is bringing additional and we might say unusual activity to the town now in the dead of winter. The Indians are busy sawing down trees and hauling logs to the mill. To see the long string of teams on the road we conclude that every available team at the Indian village is hauling logs.

Those of our citizens who believe they are doing their country a service by supporting the present government, namely the members of the Lower Bella Coola Conservative Association held their annual meeting at the Mackenzie School on Saturday, January 8, at 11 a. m.

As the prospect in their estimation being good for several years yet of their being the chosen few who can dictate what work ought to be done by the government in the community and to dispose of the patronage, the meeting was more in the manner of a love feast than a political meeting.

The president in the course of his annual address alluded to the many of the members who are absent in the war. He stated that he could not act in the capacity of president any longer.

The election of officers resulted in T. P. Saugstad being elected president; A. C. Christensen, vice-president; W. J. Quinlan, secretary-treasurer; and H. G. Anderson, auditor.

The following were elected additional members of the executive board: Vincent Clayton, Percy Gadsden, John Jorgenson and J. H. Whitcomb.

H. D. Brown was recommended as road-foreman and Wesley Grummett as engineer of the Dominion Fisheries patrol boat Merlin stationed at Rivers Inlet during the fishing season.

The club recommended that soldiers returning from active service be given preference in appointments for office.

A motion endorsing a petition by the local fishermen that five additional independent licenses be issued for this locality was carried.

That the Courier's work has not been altogether in vain was shown in the passing of a resolution "that a detailed statement of road work done and an estimate of the work for the next year be provided by the road-foreman to the association."

We are sorry to learn that the one-year-old child of Mr. and Mrs. Tucker met with a painful accident last Monday. It fell on the hot stove and received a severe burn on one side of the face.

We have been asked to publish the following letter. It seems that the writer is contemplating the erection of a saw mill and invites the public to furnish him the information he requires before entering upon the venture. We would advise the writer to

Your King and Country Needs You

YOUNG MEN ENLIST!

We are in receipt of the following telegram from Prince Rupert, which speaks for itself:

"Recruiting-sergeant Lauretson will arrive at Bella Coola by the Venture on Friday and will stay one week for the purpose of recruiting for the 102nd Battalion.

"Please advise Hagensborg and other points. Do your best to secure good representations for the Bella Coola district.

"R. O. JENNINGS."

interview the managers of the three saw mills in the valley for part of the information needed, other sources might suggest themselves to him.

Sir—It is noticed you put the erection of a saw mill as being desirable (i. e., needed) in Bella Coola, by which the writer assumes is meant a lumber mill to purchase and cut up material for sale as being a paying proposition, it would no doubt be instructive if some details of such a venture and ultimate success were published such as cost of plant, material, wages, working expenses, probable output, capital required. Thanking you in anticipation.

Yours, etc., Woodcut.

A notice signed by R. O. Jennings, road-superintendent, announcing the closing of the Bella Coola bridge for traffic was published in a previous issue.

As this bridge is on the main road between Bella Coola and the settlement the closing of it caused considerable indignation in the community, because there had been no preparation made whatever to have it either repaired or rebuilt.

As a consequence a meeting was called at the Colony Hall, Hagensborg, on December 27th, to discuss the situation and devise ways by which relief might be obtained as speedily as possible.

Before the meeting was called to order it was learned that one of the leading citizens of Bella Coola had wired the Minister of Public Works acquainting him of the closing of the bridge, and that the minister had replied that orders had been forwarded to the road-superintendent to have a new span built without delay. This information was received with satisfaction, as it was conceded that if the bridge was unsafe it being rebuilt at once was all that could be done.

Some informal talk followed about about the most business-like way of furnishing the lumber for the new bridge. It was unanimously agreed that in just

Church Notice

Sunday School - 10:45 a. m.

Church Service - 7:30 p. m.

Preacher for Sunday—Rev. W. H. Gibson.

All Are Welcome.

to the sawmills of the valley they should be given opportunity to submit tenders for the lumber needed in time for them to have it cut and delivered.

Rev. W. H. Gibson has received a message from the young men who left here New Year's day on the southbound boat to enlist. It is signed by C. Mellor and contains the information that Harry Burt, Oden Peterson and C. Mellor have joined the 103rd Battalion, C. E. F., No. 3 company, stationed at the new drill hall at Victoria.

Namu Happenings.

At 5:30 Monday afternoon the Namu people were roused from their evening meal by the call of fire. They were not long in discovering that a house occupied by George Mason and two other men was in flames. As several houses were very close together the attention of the people was quickly turned to the saving of their effects and the forming of a bucket brigade. Others were busy laying the hose, but as the tide went lower than expected this was not accomplished until the fire had consumed the house where it started; but the bucket brigade was successful in saving the adjoining buildings. Mr. Mason lost nearly all his effects, but the other two men occupying the same house lost very little in comparison. It was fortunate that the strong north wind which prevailed just previously had gone down, otherwise it is hard to say how great the loss would have been.

The cold has been intense for several days.

Timber-inspector McCrea surprised our people a few nights ago by seizing a lot of bents or crooks, used in building boats. These had been cut by some of our Japanese friends for the Draney Fisheries.

It is said the guilty parties will be fined fifty dollars.

This chapter of ill luck cannot close without mentioning that during a holiday outing Joseph Moore lost his gasoline launch by fire while anchored in Gurbat Pass. He saved the engine but lost a pet dog by suffocation. The fire started by the lighting of some spilt gasoline.

After completing needed repairs the sawmill resumed operations on Monday, January 3.

The Courier

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TO CORRESPONDENTS—While unobjectionable anonymous communications will be published, the name and address of every writer of such letters must be given to the editor. The Editor reserves the right to refuse publication of any letter. All manuscript at writer's risk.

Vancouver Office - 317-323 Cambie St.

"Salus populi suprema est lex."

SATURDAY, JAN. 15, 1916.

United States Too Proud to Fight.

The latest papers to date at our office contain the information that President Wilson's wedding trip was cut short, because he had to hurry back to Washington to deal with the serious situation arising out of the sinking by the Austrians of the P. & O. liner Persia, on the occasion of which an American consul lost his life.

When we review the history of American diplomatic dealings with the Central Powers since the sinking of the Lusitania, we are unable to see any special cause of hurry on the part of the president.

Eight months have passed since American lives were lost by the torpedoing of the Lusitania, followed by a number of other vessels destroyed in a similar way, causing loss of lives of persons whom the American flag should give safety in their lawful undertakings; and in all this time nothing has been accomplished in the direction of putting a stop to the slaughter of neutral men, women and children.

The position taken by President Wilson has been severely criticised by both the press and individuals; and although we cannot claim to have experience or knowledge of international statesmanship yet we offer the opinion that the criticism offered against the president's position are well founded.

In his own defense, President Wilson once used the expression, "We are too proud to fight." But in the face of this expression he urges upon congress the necessity of arming for defense, to be prepared. If United States is too proud to fight, it is of no use to be armed. Armies and navies are for the purpose of war and not for show.

Mr. Wilson should know by this time that in dealing with diplomats of the mental calibre of those of the Central Powers there is no argument has any weight but that of force, and he should also know that his patience and his above quoted expression cause nothing but contempt in the minds of these inhuman negotiators.

His position as regards these violations of the law of humanity and of the nations may well be

compared to that of a law against murder or any other crime with no penalty attached to it. The criminals would only snap their fingers at such a law and defy it openly, and the officials entrusted with executing the provisions of the law would simply be paralyzed. We are no advocates of war or force, but we do maintain that war and force are means necessary and obligatory upon the strong to defend the weak, and the United States should be sufficiently dignified and just to use force in defending its citizens from being unjustly treated and murdered by a foreign power when remonstrances have proven to be vain.

The Difficulties of the Premier.

When Mr. Bowser, the strong man of the government of British Columbia, viewed the perils of his party in the coming election he promptly seized the premiership and assumed full charge both of his party and the administration of the government.

He had conceived plans by which he believed his party, seemingly doomed to defeat, could gather new strength and face its critics with plausible promises of redeeming the province from the deplorable situation in which it had been placed under the joint guidance of himself and Sir Richard.

But in evolving the new platform he has to be careful not to condemn any of his former acts committed while chief lieutenant and attorney-general of the McBride administration. But being a clever lawyer he has tackled the problem and it will be seen whether he will be able favorably to impress the electorate which is the jury in the case, of his sincerity and ability to redeem his promises. As a proof that he will not recant any of his former acts we submit that one of the organs of the government in discussing the new premier's program says in part: "There is one thing which some critics of the new administration seem to overlook, which is that Mr. Bowser is the successor to Sir Richard McBride and as such committed to the carrying on of the



general policy which has characterized the various McBride administrations of the last thirteen years. This is inevitably so both because Mr. Bowser is leading the same party and because he has been identified more than any other man with the inception of the policies."

He will therefore be compelled to defend all his acts as member of McBride's cabinet, he will be obliged to readjust the old policies both as regards land, timber, railroad grants, etc., in such a way as to give continuity to any act, no matter how mischievous it has proven itself to be. In fact he will be face to face with the old folly of putting new wine in old bottles, and this now as ever will prove to be injurious to the best interests of the province.

The voters must in the coming election uproot, root and branch, all those who are responsible for the evils brought upon the province, no matter how fair their promises are.

More Aid for the P. G. E. R. ?

"In the solution of no problem now facing his government will the new premier, Hon. W. J. Bowser, be more closely watched by the electorate than in that involved in the completion of the Pacific Great Eastern Company's line to Fort George. For this project Mr. Bowser must take his full share of responsibility, for, as a member of the McBride government, he approved of the railway policy of that administration and assisted in carrying it out.

The company now finds itself unable to complete its undertaking. It needs between \$6,500,000 and \$7,000,000, but financial conditions throughout the world at present make it impossible for it to place its bonds on the market.

"As has been already told by The World, the railway company, when it found itself unable, last spring, to proceed with construction work, approached Sir Rich-

ard McBride and asked for further aid from the province. How Mr. Bowser and many members of the legislature firmly withstood the company's plea is now well known. The company got nothing and has been unable to make progress with its undertaking since.

"This week Mr. Bowser announced the appointment of Hon. Lorne Campbell, the Minister of Mines, as chairman of a Cabinet committee to consider the problems involved in the early completion of the railway enterprises already undertaken. This committee should be able to do much valuable work and to secure information that should materially assist the government. Doubtless the members will inquire fully into the manner in which the company has earned its present guarantee of \$35,000, which has been already increased to \$42,000, and which it is proposed to increase still further. Doubtless, also, they will inspect that portion of the line with which Vancouver people are most familiar, and will endeavor to judge from the condition of the roadbed, bridges and gradients whether the half or the whole of the original guarantee has been spent on it.

Apart from the work of the committee, however, the public will be interested to learn if, as indicated in the government press, Mr. Bowser has changed his attitude and now finds that he can support a proposal which he denounced in March last.

"At any rate the situation now is that the liabilities of the province in respect to the guarantee of interest and principal on the P. G. E. bonds amount to \$31,710,000, and it is proposed to increase this considerably. The people of British Columbia, therefore, have the right to the fullest information on the progress and prospects of the whole undertaking.—Vancouver World.

Sir Richard's Predicament.

The Bowser administration has in one respect at least taken a wrong step, a step which will not enhance its reputation either at home or abroad for just and honest dealings.

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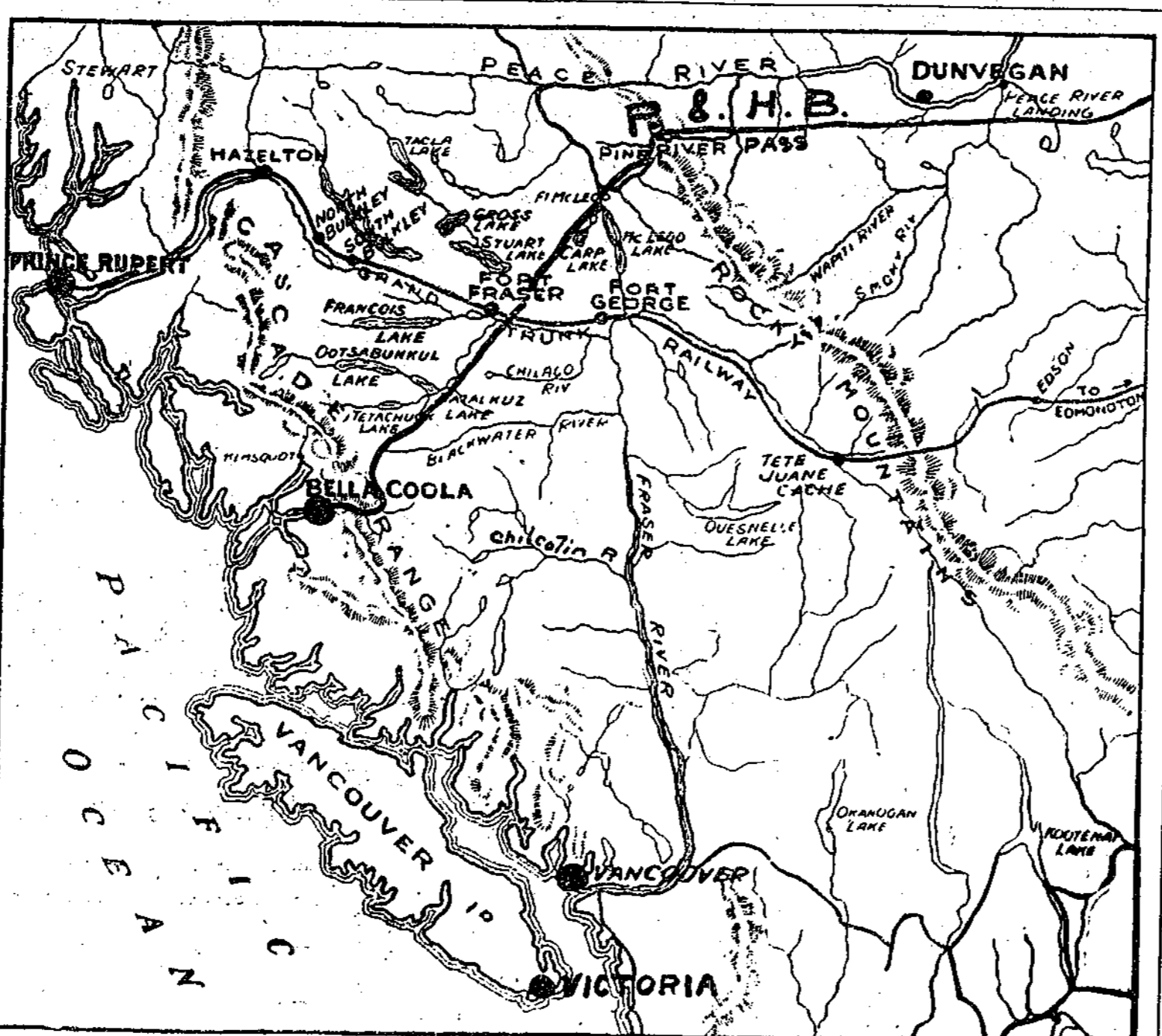
When, "in the course of human events," it became necessary to get Sir Richard out of the government some place had to be provided for him in order to avoid trouble. There were not many places available that would be suitable for a person of such exalted position. The talk of Sir Richard becoming a member of the Dominion cabinet or receive the appointment of High Commissioner of Canada in England, had subsided spontaneously with the partial revelation of the affairs of the province of which he had been the prime minister so long. There did not seem anything in sight that would suit him better than to become Agent General in London. But here was a difficulty which had to be removed before Sir Richard could land in that position.

Hon. J. H. Turner, by an act of the legislature, holds the office of agent general for life and is, in spite of advanced age, hale and hearty, and is not over anxious to give up the position to another.

There is some obscurity of how the difficulty of persuading him to vacate the job was approached, but the outcome of it was that Mr. Turner was induced to sign a conditional resignation, to take effect as soon as a suitable pension had been provided for him. Not waiting to perform his part of the bargain Mr. Bowser published Mr. Turner's resignation in the Gazette, forced Sir Richard out of office and had him appointed to fill the vacancy caused by Mr. Turner's resignation.

In an interview Mr. Turner spoke with considerable warmth in referring to the treatment received. "It is a brutal thing to kick me out," he said. "Exigencies of politics are responsible for the government in Victoria wanting the change. I never contemplated nor gave a verbal resignation. I presented my resignation unwillingly six weeks ago, when it was demanded by the British Columbia government, but I stipulated for a pension and other matters. The resignation was not to be effective unless these matters were carried out."

The government must consult the legislature before it can carry out its offer; and in the meantime Sir Richard's chances of office are somewhat uncertain.



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"Wine is a Mocker."

That the use of intoxicating liquors if it does not exactly steal a man's brains yet impairs his reasoning powers, is illustrated by an editorial in The Week, a pro-liquor paper published in Victoria. It is safe to infer from the contents of the article re-

ferred to, that the writer of it is not a total abstainer, and in the light of modern scientific research as regards the effect of the use of intoxicants upon the human brain it is equally clear that liquor has had its usual effect upon him. Science has demonstrated that

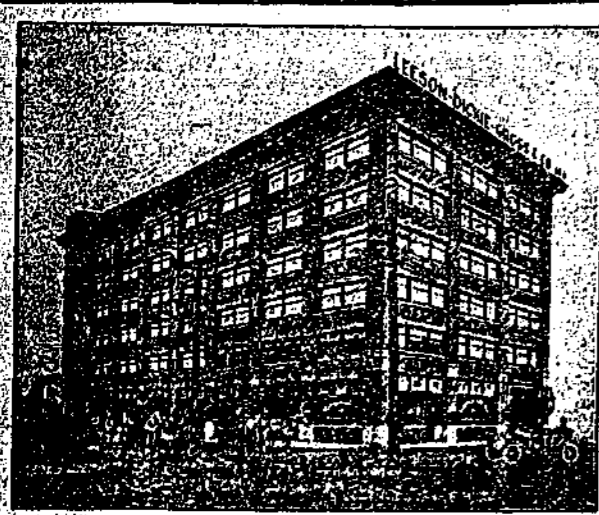
the effect of alcohol upon the human system is exactly the opposite of what the consumer believes it has. A person who has had "a wee dropie" feels as if he is doing more and better work than when he has received no stimulant; while the proven fact is, that he actually accomplishes less and with poorer results.

He has less accuracy of vision and judgment, less endurance and capability, while all the time he is under the delusion that he is stronger, more able and in every way better both in mind and body, because of the liquor taken into the system.

That the editor of The Week is in earnest when he praises the effects of liquor upon the human mind seems certain from the fact that he gives the article referred to place on the front page of his paper with editorials on subjects such as: "Christmas 1915," "Progress of War," and "The New Premier's Program." We believe the readers, after perusing the extracts we give below, will arrive at the conclusion that scripture is right when it says: "Wine is a mocker."

"The Mirthless Man."

"Our conception of a teetotaler is a gentleman with dyspepsia who bolts his meals with the aid of ice water, thus foregoing the pleasures of the table. What a lot of pleasures this unfortunate creature is cut off from! How much that adds to the discomforts of life he has to endure! He cannot even rid himself with a drink of the cobwebs that are darkening his brain. The truth is that many avenues to pleasure are closed to the teetotaler. He is marooned far from the sparkling stream of social intercourse. Drink is a spur to wit and creates the conditions in which any sort of conversation is good conversation. It is no wonder that for a long time man was inclined to regard the gift of strong drink as something peculiarly divine. What does the teetotaler know of the sparkling fancies that whirl and foam in a glass of champagne; of the solid comfort furnished by those twin enemies to carking care—a pipe and a glass of beer. It is not to be said that all teetotalers are dull and sombre, but certainly not to a club of Prohibitionists would a man go in quest of a rollicking companion. Not from a man with an aversion to wine do we expect the mirth that would 'move a soul in agony.' Shakespeare tells us that he would rather heat his liver with wine than cool his heart with mortifying groans, and in the very next line he imaged for us a figure that symbolizes the Prohibitionist who 'creeps into the jaundice by being peevish.' So much by way of indicating that if merriment is essential to long life the teetotaler will not live long. The average teetotaler has few ways to forget the stepmotherliness of the world. It is with the subject of Prohibition as with religion according to Lord Bacon. Whereas, says Bacon, a little study of the drink question under the guidance of the half-educated W. C. T. U. will drive us to total abstinence, a profound study of it in the temple of science will reconcile us to the juice of the grape—the fermented juice that St. Paul recommended to Timothy."



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A Letter From Fred Grant.

The Germans have been bombarding quite heavy. They have blown a little town on our left practically to pieces. As far as we know only two civilians were killed. Our aeroplanes have been kept busy trying to locate their batteries. Hardly a day passes but what we see at least 2 or 3 planes being shelled. It is very exciting watching them. We hear, unofficially, that it is likely we will be going to Serbia next month.. I am back cooking (Continued on page 4, column 4.)

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