BELLA COOLA COURIER

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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. 15 | *BELLA COOLA, B. C., SATURDAY, JANUARY 29, 1916.* | $1.00 a Year

German Aviators Drop Bombs on Dunkirk

Paris, Jan. 25.—Official communication. "In Belgium to the southeast of Boesingher, our artillery in concert with the British artillery carried out a violent bombardment of the enemy works which suffered serious damage. Two German aeroplanes this morning dropped about fifteen bombs in Dunkirk and its environs. Five persons were killed and three wounded. In Artois cannonading has been very lively to the east, several enemy batteries being silenced. To the north of the Aisne we dispersed a large enemy convoy in the region of Craonne. A German heavy battery which attempted to destroy the bridge at Berry-au-Bac was damaged by the fire of our heavy calibre guns and completely silenced. On the heights of the Meuse in the sector of Mouilly, a small enemy detachment which attempted to approach our lines after a somewhat intense bombardment was easily dispersed by our fire."

Liner Torpedoed

London, Jan. 25.—It is confirmed this morning that the Dominion liner Norseman, 10,000 tons, was torpedoed late yesterday afternoon by German submarine. The liner was successfully beached without loss of life.

Munition Factory Wrecked

Amsterdam, Jan. 25.—Eleven persons killed and over two hundred wounded by the explosion of a munition factory at Offenbach, Hesse, on Sunday. Part of the city was wrecked and is in ruins.

Wants Separate Peace

Paris, Jan. 25.—That the Turkish heir apparent, inspired by the Kaiser's agents, is seeking separate peace is credited in Athens, owing to the abandonment of the Turkish expedition to Suez and the Turco-Bulgarian offensive at Saloniki.

Treasurer Hellferich makes the admission in the Reichstag that the German financial position is precarious.

Norwegian City Burnt Down

Christiania, Norway.—A third of the city of Bergen, a thriving Norwegian seaport with a population of 90,000, has been destroyed by fire. Two lives are reported to have been lost and 2,000 persons are homeless. The property damage is estimated at $15,000,000.

The conflagration is said to be the worst ever recorded in Norway. The business section with its old wholesale houses, several of the largest hotels, a number of schools, the electric plant, banks and newspaper buildings were burned.

Russians Successful In Repelling Attacks

Petrograd, Jan. 25.—Official communication. "Our artillery successfully bombarded German positions in the region of the Dvina below Friederichstadt on the 24th. An enemy aeroplane dropped two bombs on Dvinsk, resulting in one woman being killed. Near the village of Soilschnischki, west of Lake Boginskole, we repulsed a German attack against our observation post. In Galicia, on the Stripa front, an artillery duel has been in progress. The enemy again has had recourse to throwing proclamations from balloons into our camp. We learn that in one German division a great number of men have been frost bitten, many so severely that they must be invalided home. In the Caucasus in the region of Erzerum, we continued to press the Turks closely and take many prisoners. In the Melazhert district we fought successful actions against enemy cavalry and infantry detachments."

Artillery Activity

London, Jan. 25—Official statement. "We have had a successful artillery bombardment near Ovilers, La Biselle, Le Bridoux and Boesingher. Near Boesingher we exploded a bomb store in the enemy's lines. The hostile artillery has shown activity near Gommescourt, about Loos and at Hooge. The aircrafts on both sides have been very active. We maintained our supremacy."

To Make Another Attempt for Calais

London, Jan. 25.—Renewed activity on the Western front following the German repulse on Tuesday in Flanders. It is predicted that on Thursday the Kaiser's 57th Birthday, will witness a desperate effort to force the road to Calais.

Cabinet Meeting Postponed

Revelstoke, Jan. 25.—C. P. R. traffic east is resumed, but west bound trains turned at Kamloops because of a thirty-six miles of slides. Over five feet of snow has fallen between Lytton and Yale.

The cabinet meeting called for today at Kamloops is indefinitely postponed.

Dynamite Found

Portland, Jan. 25.—Dynamite enough to blow up the city was found hidden in a deserted dry-dock. The belief is it was intended to destroy the plants of the Marine Hardware Co. and Portland Hardware Co. engaged in making shell cases for the Allies.

Jottings of Bella Coola and District

S. S. Venture startled the residents of our burg on Thursday last week by announcing her arrival before 12 noon, being several hours ahead of time. The people of the South found the climate of their own latitude sufficiently cold to discourage them from venturing on a trip that would bring them into a still colder region, and as a consequence the only passengers for Bella Coola were Gus. Pearson, Tom Miller and Mrs. Clayton, who returned to our shores even if the weather is cold.

As the steamer was bound for the North, some of our young men who had enlisted, accompanied by recruiting-sergeant Lauretson, left for Prince Rupert to join the Comox-Atlin regiment.

The departing men were: Ingvald Urseth, Charles Wood, Fred Anderson, Harry Gustafson and Charles Taylor. Quite a crowd of people was at the wharf to bid them good-bye and as the steamer got under way the cheers of those on the wharf followed the departing recruits.

We are not in position to tell the exact number of recruits resulting from the efforts of the recruiting officer on his visit here, but we hear of several more of our young men who intend to depart to join the colors in the near future.

Mrs. E. C. Clayton returned after a brief visit to friends at Namu.

Gus Pearson and Tom Miller returned on the last steamer after an absence of several weeks. It is not known at the present writing what business they had that could possibly keep them for so long away from their bachelor firesides. It is regrettable that they did not see fit to induce some of the gentler sex to join their fortunes and cheer them in their cosy homes.

After residing at Bella Coola for a number of years Peter Marrin left on yesterday's steamer for Prince Rupert to join the section of the 102nd, now being made up in the northern city.

R. O. Jennings, road-superintendent, together with some of our prominent citizens inspected the bridge across the Bella Coola river one day last week. It was decided that one of the spans should be replaced as soon as the materials could be procured.

Antoine Capoose, the Indian trader of Anaham Lake, in defiance of the intense cold of the last few days arrived on Tuesday last on a business trip to Bella Coola. He came on horseback and had spent four days in traveling the distance of one hundred miles. He reports unusual cold weather with only little snow. The Indians in that neighborhood are all busy trapping and the catch is very good. Capoose seems to be a very active man, and well he may be; he has already accumulated $7000 worth of the season's catch of fur. He stopped but a few hours in town, departing on the return trip on the day of his arrival.

We are sorry to learn that Mrs. O. T. Landry is on the sick list this week.

The attention of the members of the Farmers' Institute and others is called to the article in this number entitled, "Be up and doing." A cannery establishment might form the nucleus around which several co-operative enterprises could be centered to the benefit of the community.

Winter has settled down upon Bella Coola in earnest. The thermometer went as low as sixteen degrees below zero on Sunday morning, and the mercury has been hovering about zero every day since then. The intensity of the cold is felt more keenly because it is accompanied by a rather strong wind. The air has been filled with particles of snow which, in connection with the cold, gives the weather every appearance of a regular prairie blizzard.

This unusual weather has to a great extent put a damper on many outdoor activities and made most of our residents adopt the bear mode of spending the cold weather in hibernation.

The usual Sunday school and service at the Mackenzie schoolhouse were abandoned last Sunday because of the wind and cold.

The concert for the benefit of Red Cross Fund advertised to take place at the Colony Hall, Hagensborg, on Saturday last was postponed for the same reasons.

Several inches of snow fell last week and now there is excellent sleighing.

We would remind those whom it may concern that the Courier is a newspaper and that we shall highly appreciate accounts of the different meetings held and other happenings occurring in Bella Coola and adjacent districts.

The services at the Mackenzie School tomorrow evening will be conducted by Cecil Lancaster.

There will be no service at the Lower school.

To the credit of our Indians be it said that the inclemency of the weather does not keep them from attending services at their church Last Sunday being the coldest on record saw the Indians turn out for three services, namely, morning, afternoon and evening. The last meeting being attended by about 75. During the week it is assumed that they, the same as the rest of our population, are busily engaged in keeping "the home fires burning."

Last Monday evening the Indians met to discuss the contents of a letter received from the secretary of the Indian's Rights Association. While they agreed to the propositions made in the letter, they refrained from approving of them by adding their signatures as they did not consider it expedient to bind themselves at this juncture.

The Indians are not of the same mind as the Conservative Association in the matter of the application of the granting of five additional independent fishery licenses for Bella Coola.

They hold that when one half of the seventy licenses issued for Bella Coola are independent licenses that that is all the whites should ask for, as a larger number will infringe upon rights of the Indians.

Facing the Enemy's Fire.

(A letter from Fred Grant.)

We have been having quite a lively time of it lately, quite sufficient for me and all the rest of us, I think. When I wrote last we were in the reserves on the hill in nice comfortable huts. We stayed there for three days then moved down to a farm house about two hundred yards from our front line of trenches. The first night we were here ten of us went on a working party to build a parapet that had been blown away in the front line. On our way down one of the boys was hit in the head with a rifle bullet. Fortunately it was only a deep graze. He shouted twice, "They've got me; quick, help!" and believe me we had an exciting time of it for a little while. The Germans must have heard him and kept firing machine guns at us. Finally we got him carried over to a hedge and bandaged up as well as we could and sent him back with one of the others. He was taken out to the hospital in the morning. The rest of us went on through mud and shell holes, and more mud, to the parapet and worked there from eight to two in the morning. We slept from then until six, being on guard till seven, then had breakfast. Everything went very nice until nearly twelve, when two shells landed in a building thirty feet from ours, we were all ordered out and got in a trench until it quietened down, which was in about half an hour. The same thing happened again at a quarter to one and still we went back. We were nearly through dinner when a shell caught the building right square and knocked a part of the brick wall right into the room we were in. Goodness, it was a mess; between the smoke, dust, lime and bricks, we could hardly see what we were doing, but it didn't take us long to get out through the door. The shells kept coming over at intervals of three or four seconds, most of them landing in the yard close to the house. It was awful crawling along a ditch by the side of the road to the trench where we were to go in case of being shelled. I can't understand how none of us were wounded or killed, for lots of us got splashed with mud and dirt from the shells exploding close to us. Why we did not stay in the trenches all the time was because they were so full of water, it came right up to my thighs. Our head-quarters telephoned to our battery that we were being shelled and to send a few across the line, which they soon did. The Germans sent them over a little faster and then a few more of our batteries opened up and soon there was a furious bombardment. It lasted for two and a half hours and the artillerymen say it was the worst they have had so far, but of course not nearly as long as others. I didn't mind it at all until the coal boxes and high explosives started coming across. The concussion from them was something awful, I'll never forget those two and a half hours as long as I live. No wonder that the nerves of so many fellows are shattered. When it got dark we went back to the farm, collected our kits and then had supper. The third had a casualty list of about thirty, nine killed and the rest wounded, they were in the front line on our left. A squadron of the second joining on their right.

In the Battle of Loos.

L. J. Calnan, formerly of Bella Coola and now in the transport service with the army in France, has sent a letter to friends from which we print extracts of interest to our readers:

We are having a touch of Bella Coola weather, cold and dry. Such weather that seems to give an additional pull to the blankets in a morning. Reveille at six o'clock. Outside it looks so white and cold, so much so that it takes some time to make up one's mind as to the exact moment when to make the final crawling movement, but it is not too bad

Continued on page 4, column 2.

Church Notice

Sunday School - 10:45 a. m.
Church Service - 7:30 p. m.

Preacher for Sunday, Mr. C. Lancaster.

All Are Welcome.

The Courier

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Vancouver Office - - 317-323 Cambie St.

"Salus populi suprema est lex."

SATURDAY, JAN. 29, 1916.

For Friendship's Sake.

About the middle of October last in the case of a lawsuit in which the Pacific Coast Coal Mines was involved, the evidence brought out the fact that Dr. H. E. Young, who then held the office of Provincial Secretary and Minister of Education, had been presented by a member of the company, Mr. Arbuthnot, shares to the value of $105,000. Mr. Arbuthnot, in trying to explain the transaction said that he gave the shares to Dr. Young because he was an old friend of his since 1884, and he had promised that if he ever took up anything in this province (but not otherwise?) he would give him an interest in it.

The trial of the case further disclosed the fact that the shares in question were not the property of Mr. Arbuthnot, but that they belonged to the company as a whole, and that being the case it is safe to assume that all the members of the concern were not the personal friends of Dr. Young; at least not to the extent of being willing to make him a present of over $100,000.

Mr. Wishard, another member of the company, thought the shares were turned over to Dr. Young "for political purposes," and that is a more reasonable explanstion of the affair.

Mr. Justice Clements, the judge before whom the case was tried, speaks of the gift as "an unsavory transaction," concerning which he does not believe he has heard the whole truth. He adds that the motive alleged for the gift by Mr. Arbuthnot was "too weak to inspire belief in any but the most credulous." In rendering judgment in the case he ordered the shares returned to the company.

In this transaction we are confronted with circumstances that are calculated to arouse in the minds of men not over credulous a suspicion that Dr. Young's services to the company were not alone of sufficient value to warrant a gift of such magnitude. And if such suspicions are not unreasonable, it should be the duty of Dr. Young's former colleagues in the goverment to make a searching investigation into the whole transaction, that they may be spared the imputation that they were aware of and benefitted by the transaction. These gentlemen are the servants of the province and some of them are appealing to the people for further evidence of their confidence and, therefore, it behooves them to treat this matter with something besides silent contempt.

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One Grafter Found Guilty.

The attitude of the Courier in matters pertaining to political affairs has been on the whole one of criticism. It has found in both Dominion and Provincial administrations several things which with ordinary business capacity and goodwill could be carried on a great deal better than is being done, and in view of the strenuous times through which the country is passing we own that we grow somewhat impatient, because we regard many existing modes of administration as being entirely inexcusable. Amidst so many of such matters it is with a sense of pleasure that we read in the despatches that as a result of the investigations carried on by Sir Charles Davidson, one of the war grafters has been prosecuted and found guilty of forgery.

The despatch reads: At Regina, Saskatchewan, after a twenty minutes consideration, the Supreme Court jury yesterday brought in a verdict of guilty against G. A. Mitchell. His crime was the uttering of false accounts in the connection with the sale of fodder to the remount department.

If all the other grafters be prosecuted with equal vigor it will go a long way towards our reconciliation with the Borden government.

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Shall We Subsidize Shipping?

With the exception probably of the manufature of munitions of war, there is no business which in spite of submarines and mines has enjoyed such unprecedented prosperity of late as the business of shipping.

The goods in transit have, since the war began, been greatly in excess of the ships to carry them. The causes are several. All the ships of the Central

ROYAL YEAST MAKES PERFECT BREAD

Powers are driven out of business; the Entente Allies have commandeered a great many others for war purposes, and quite a number have been destroyed by the vicissitudes of war. In consequence of this scarcity of means of transportation, freight rates have soared and, in consequence, shipowners realized enormous profits and have in some cases paid for their ships out of the profits of one voyage across the Atlantic.

British Columbia lumbermen have been severely handicapped for want of bottoms to take away their products and have been casting about for means of relieving the situation.

The provincial government is also giving attention to the problem with a view of offering relief. And now it seems that the idea is crystallizing that both the Dominion and Provincial governments bonus shipbuilding and either subsidize or guarantee the bonds of the shipowners.

We are opposed to any governmental aid for such purposes. We are just as anxious as anyone to see the lumber industry prosper and equally desirous of the flourishing of the shipping.

But we are opposed to all unnecessary government aid. And in this case of building ships entirely so. We are advised that large orders for lumber from the British and French governments, from Australia, New Zealand, South Africa and China are going to the Washington and Oregon mills, and that they are able to find ships for the transportation of their output.

There is no doubt that the building and operation of ships will be a very profitable business for years to come, both during and after the war; and any business men experienced in those lines, will realize a satisfactory profit on the capital invested without any governmental aid whatever. We have enough knowledge of human nature to understand that the shipbuilders and owners would be glad to get the bonus and subsidy asked for, in addition to the profits of their business; but as there is good profits in the business itself it is safe to conclude they will build ships and operate them without governmental aid.

If the manufacturers of lumber will show more enterprise in securing orders, the government employ live men as trade commissioners, an active agent-general, we cannot see why the mills of British Columbia should not be able to secure the trade from the different parts of the British Empire that now goes to the Pacific States, and also obtain the ships that are carrying it now.

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The Politicians Falling Into Line.

The prohibition principle is gathering headway to such an extent now that the politicians are falling into line in favor of it. There is no one more careful than they to keep their ears to the ground in order to learn the drift of public opinion. They may for this reason be called the weather-vanes of politics. By keeping the eye upon them you will, as a rule, know which way the sentiment that decides election is directed. In reading the following article on Dominion-wide prohibition our readers will learn the attitude of Canadian statesmen on the subject. In this province of British Columbia the men at the head of affairs according to our view have not as yet gauged correctly the public sentiment on this subject, but then these statesmen have enjoyed autocratic rule so long that they have lost touch with the people. The prohibitionists of the United States in times past used to say that both the great political parties of that country were whiskey parties; but now this is all changed. About a year ago both Houses of Congress delared by a majority vote in favor of prohibition of the liquor traffic, but as it did not have a three-fourths majority it was not carried.

But to return to our own Dominion; the Ottawa Free Press says:

"On patriotic and economic grounds, and without any reference to the sentimental reasons, it is believed that a majority of the Dominion Cabinet, headed by Sir George E. Foster and Sir Sam Hughes, would be in favor of Dominion Prohibition for the duration of the war.

"It is also believed that a large majority of the members of both the Commons and Senate would support such legislation on those grounds. And it is further asserted that the recent action of legislatures and the recent voting in many municipalities have proved that the country, because of the feeling created by the war, is ripe for Dominion-wide Prohibition as it never has been before.

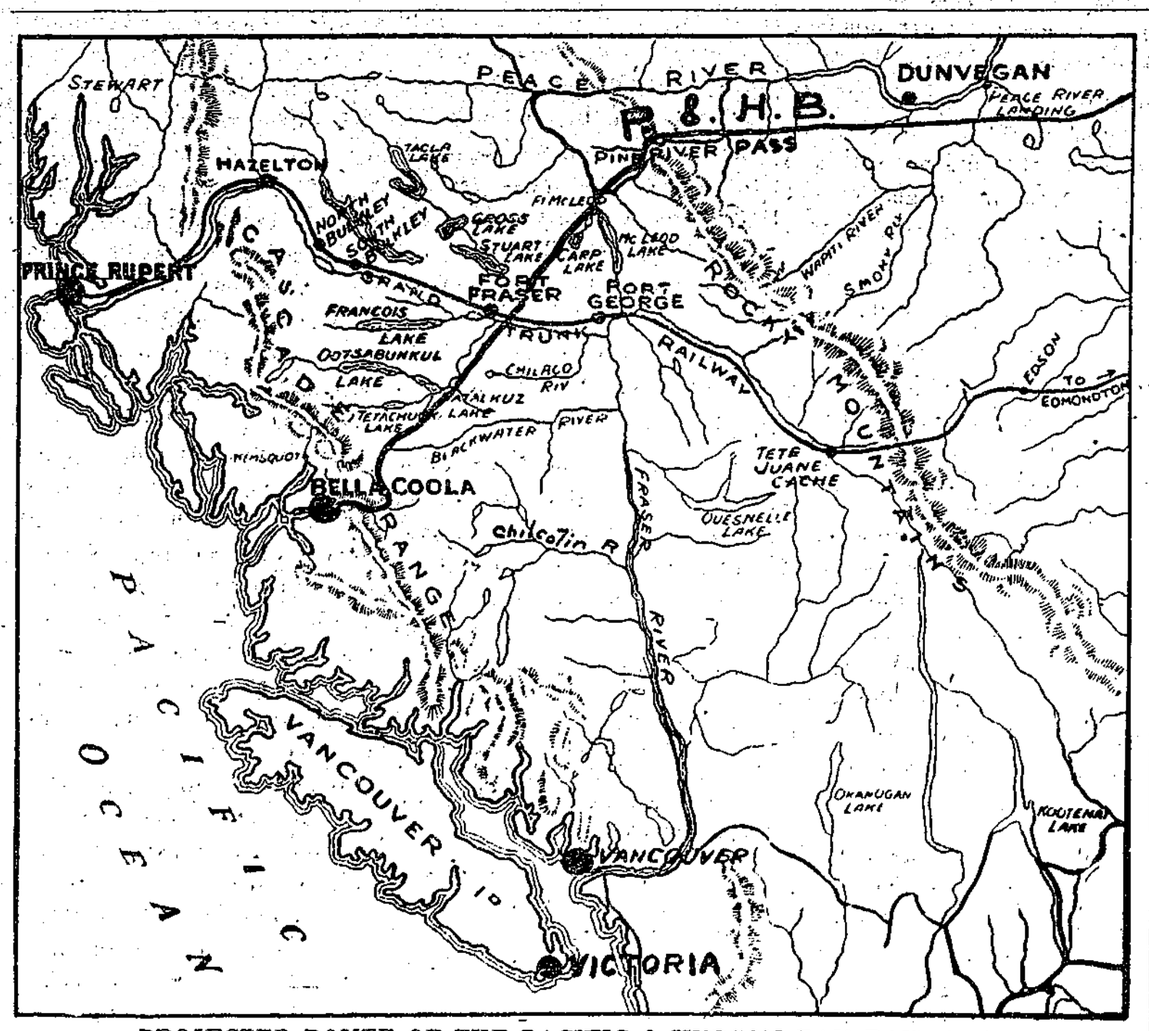
"The campaign is to be strictly non-political, as is the campaign of the Citizens' Committee of One Hundred in Ontario. Already the names of men prominent on both sides of politics have been secured, and it is stated that in most cases great enthusiasm is being shown.

"The appeal will be to parliament and not to the government.

"'Dominion-wide Prohibition is the only sane, just and reasonable method of dealing with the problem,' said one of the men behind the new movement. 'Of course sectional Prohibition is better than nothing at all. But for instance, what is the good of closing up saloons in Ottawa and leaving them wide open in Hull? That absurd situation is being duplicated all over the country. There is the greatest opportunity now for a real experiment with Dominion-wide Prohibition. If it isn't a success we can return to the old order after peace is declared.'

"The new movement, it is explained, is not antagonistic to the campaign of the Committee of One Hundred in Ontario, but an amplification of it. Ontario men favoring Prohibition will work toward both ends so that if the larger scheme fails there will be the second to fall back upon."

As the sun is rising higher in the heavens, foretelling the breking of the shackles of winter so also the outlook on the horizon of the war is brightening, bringing hope of early peace.



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Be Up and Doing.

Smile's "Self-Help" is the title of a book which was often recommended for perusal during my boyhood days. Self-help is what I believe in and self-help is what I wish to emphasise in the following lines.

To the casual observer it would seem that Bella Coola is waiting for someone to come in and do something, this attitude, however, is not going to benefit us, as the possibility is that someone may not come and, consequently, that something may not be done. Perhaps the fear of possible failure is deterring the community, if this is so, let us put ourselves in the position that "it is not in mortals to command success, but we'll do more—deserve it."

The Agricultural Department of the Province estimates that $1,000,000 worth of fruit and vegetables are lost every year to the provincial producers owing to the want of a suitable way of getting this produce to the market. Ready access to favorable markets for fresh vegetables and small fruits is denied us owing to our distance from those markets. Since we are well aware that all producers suffer this loss, it is evident that some method other than the shipping of fresh produce should be adopted. This other method is to be found in canning, whereby our produce can not only be held over almost indefinitely or to suit requirements, but can be shipped to remote regions in most perfect and agreeable condition.

The Demand Increasing.

A glance over the figures of government statistics will reveal to us that the importation of canned goods by the Dominion in general and British Columbia in particular, is on the increase. The people appreciate this form of diet and are willing to pay for it. How then should we treat the situation? Are we going to knowingly suffer the loss of money every year or are we going to adopt the means provided and add to our income at no inconvenience to ourselves?

To send our produce to Prince Rupert, Vancouver, Victoria, or further afield, necessitates our shipments being made when similar produce is being shipped into these markets in large quantities from places located at favorable distances, this means exclusion to our produce and consequently a loss to ourselves as well as to the markets. We cannot conveniently and profitably reach the markets with fresh produce, but we can do so with canned goods.

I am not "springing" on the readers and would be co-operators any boom by which you will make a fortune in a short time by sitting at home while others work for you. I simply claim that should the undertaking be carried out with diligence, ability and business application by all concerned, an addition would be made to your annual income, both in the shape of a dividend on the stock you hold in the factory as well as on the sale of your produce.

Bella Coola Produces the Best.

Bella Coola products carried away over 20 first prizes at Prince Rupert, this fact is sufficient evidence that we grow first class goods, with this we can command good attention from the markets we seek to enter. The better the produce, the better can it be handled and put up.

I do not advocate starting on a big scale, but on a sound commercial scale worked co-operatively. Increase is easier and more pleasant than retrenchment and is not accompanied with explanations or excuses, which are undesirable in the extreme to all concerned. A mere experimental undertaking is, however, to be avoided. The fruit and vegetables to be put up should, for the first season only, be such as can be grown in large quantities with minimum labour; hence the cheapest and for which a good market can be secured.

Let us Co-operate.

I have mentioned the inaugurating of the canning factory on co-opertive lines. This is highly desirable. The producer, who is also stock holder, will in his own interests eliminate to some extent at least the possibility and probability of unfit produce reaching the factory; his motto must be "the best," this to a large extent will ensure the putting up of the very best goods, which will find a ready sale.

I cannot here go into the technicalities nor process of canning. I merely put forth facts which might interest those who are making their plans for this year as to how their acreage might be employed to greater advantage. This is the opportune time not only to arrange for the canning factory itself but also for the produce to be canned. It is obvious that unless a reasonably sufficient kind of one produce—arranged for mutually—is not forthcoming in due season it would be suicidal to attempt work on a small quantity.

Further details can be gone into should interest warrant it.

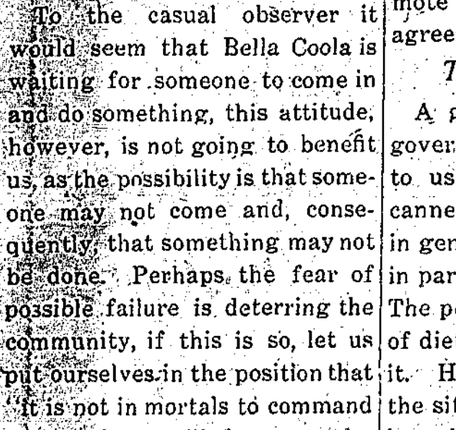
—CECIL LANCASTER.

Providing for the Maimed Soldiers.

Soldiers returning from the front, according to the plans of the hospitals commission, will not be sent home, but will be placed in the convalescent institutions provided for the purpose.

In view of the fact that the government will have to pay these men a pension in permanency, the commission proposes to exercise its authority and in all serious cases place them in institutions where they may be properly and scientifically cared for and their condition ameliorated. This, it is felt, is particularly desirable because of the fact that the pension is to be based upon the nature and extent of the permanent injury.

By way of overcoming another complaint it has been decided that the pay of an invalided man shall not cease when he reaches Canada, but shall be continued until such time as his pension begins.



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COAL MINING RIGHTS of the Dominion, in MANITOBA, SASKATCHEWAN and ALBERTA, the YUKON TERRITORY, the NORTH-WEST TERRITORIES and in a portion of the PROVINCE of BRITISH COLUMBIA, may be leased for a term of twenty-one years at an annual rental of $1 an acre. Not more than 2,560 acres will be leased to one applicant.

Application for a lease must be made by the applicant in person to the Agent or Sub-Agent of the district in which the rights applied for are situated.

In surveyed territory the land must be described by sections, or legal subdivisions of sections, and in unsurveyed territory the tract applied for shall be staked out by the applicant himself.

Each application must be accompanied by a fee of $5 which will be refunded if the rights applied for are not available, but not otherwise. A royalty shall be paid on the merchantable output of the mine at the rate of five cents per ton.

The person operating the mine shall furnish the Agent with sworn returns accounting for the full quantity of merchantable coal mined and pay the royalty thereon. If the coal mining rights are not being operated, such returns should be furnished at least once a year.

The lease will include the coal mining rights only, but the lessee may be permitted to purchase whatever available surface rights may be considered necessary for the working of the mine at the rate of $10.00 an acre.

For full information application should be made to the Secretary of the Department of the Interior, Ottawa, or to any Agent or Sub-Agent of Dominion Lands.

W. W. CORY,
Deputy Minister of the Interior.

N. B.—Unauthorized publication of this advertisement will not be paid for.—30690.

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IN THE BATTLE OF LOOS—continued

when one is out and about; for trying to get the old gas wagon to kick and keep kicking, puts all the warmth into one that one needs.

The places we have to make our quarters are a sight; generally an old barn, sometimes we are billeted in an old stable, here again in a prison, again under the sky. However, we line together with our bully beef and biscuits and are getting fat.

You have no conception of the sort of roads we have to go over and what the old bus has to do. I should not like to handle a Ford on our work, but trust to my old "siddley-deasy," for I should hate to be stopped for engine trouble in some of the places we have been in.

I guess I may say now without giving information away that we were in that last attack at Loos, and what a sight! We ran continually for 36 hours, only stopping for water, petrol and oil—eating on the car when one could—no lights, bad roads, meeting troops coming down and troops going up, but the spirit of the men was wonderful. Those comins down were shouting and singing to those going up, "all right boys we've got 'em going, keep 'em on the run for when we return." "All right boys, buck up and look slick for Brussels and the Rhine." And the town of Loos, what a sight! Men running about with their first aid bandages on looking for the hospital, helping one another, blood all over them. And the condition of their clothing! some with ripped up trousers and hats torn off, some even with no coat, only half a shirt, German helmets on, etc.

The number of men I brought down to about 10 miles behind that line I could not count. Sometimes 4 stretcher cases, 4 sitting inside, 3 on the back strap and 2 in front with me. And the tales they told! I happend to see a roll call of a Scotch regiment—a sight I shall never forget; one lieutenant and one colonel only were left of the officers. The lieutenant called the roll while the colonel stood by to receive the report. When it was finished and the roll handed to him he sat down and cried like a child. "Is this all, is this all, out of such a fine body of men. Oh, God!" 160 were left out of 980 and the men stood there in all shapes, hardly any had hats; some had or were wearing German helmets and their clothes were all tattered. I shall never forget it!

(Here Mr. Calnan gives some personal experiences in the fighting at Loos.)

Well, we were in the last attack and one time, I remember, that gave me the cold shivers. I had to go up for an officer who was wounded, and away I went. It happened to be in a village that we had just taken and the army had moved up one of the big guns, I did not know anything of this. Well I pulled up and waited for the men to go and fetch the officer, when all of a sudden a terrific bang, gosh I went stiff, a man poked his head over a parapet and said, "say mate you had better make tracks, for if the Germans find out we have this gun here the trouble will start." You may guess I wanted to turn around and make tracks, but the officer had not appeared so had to wait. Another bang, another, every minute I expected to hear the Germans reply. Anyway I thought it was safer to be near the gun than away from it. Just then whiz, bang, the top of the church not a hundred yards went up in dust, then another bang and a cloud of dust; then our gun thought it time to be moving, which it did, together with the appearance of my officer and you may bet I cleared too.

Another time I went with an officer to his late dug out, during the attack the first line had by now been driven into the German line. It was just about dawn, the officer kept saying, "just a little further on (I had no lights and the road was over a shelled-up field) but we must get out of here before dawn or they will see us." Gee, that was nice, I could see the dawn in the sky over in front of us; and the Germans will fire on anything, Red Cross or not, then away he went and left me to turn around. I smoked a cigarette to ease my mind of the return journey and watched that dawn come up. Half an hour later the officer came back with a bunch of things and put them in the car, by this time I could hear rifle fire and small guns, the big guns were starting to send their messages over. Any way we got away and into a village and ran from the line.

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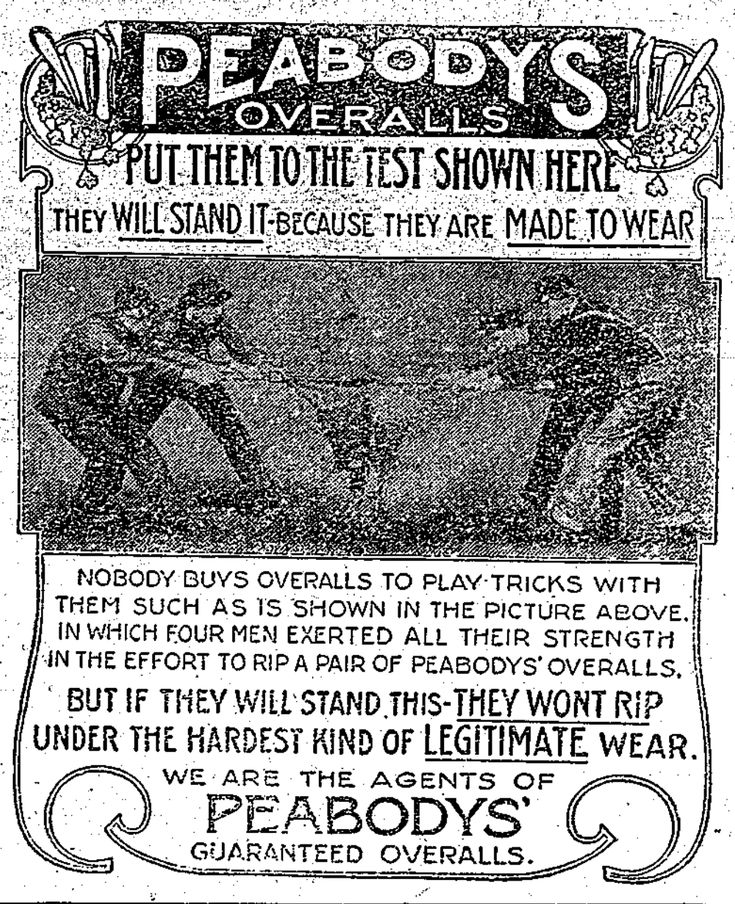

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