

BELLA COOLA

COURIER

WEATHER REPORT FOR FEBRUARY.
Compiled by Mr. C. H. Urseth, of the Bella Coola Observatory.
Temperature: Maximum, 35. Minimum, 22.
Highest Max. (27th) 59. Lowest Min. (1st) 4
Rainfall, 3.67 inches. Snow, 2.50 inches.
Rainfall for the year (1915) 34.33 inches.

**IF YOU WANT GOOD SPORT
VISIT BELLA COOLA. EXCEL-
LENT HUNTING AND FISHING.**

VOL. 4—NO. 27

BELLA COOLA, B. C., SATURDAY, MARCH 25, 1916.

\$1.00 a Year

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Norwegian steamship Kannik, crew saved.

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Bella Coola and Gallipoli are far, perhaps, as the poles apart, yet the little Courier has penetrated the gullies and scrub-covered ridges where the troops have gone, where many a brave lad sleeps to day, and when the noise of battle is done at Cape Helles, Anzac and Sulva, probably among Canadian newspapers that privilege is romantic and unique. Your motto should be "Excelsior!"—Yours truly,

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| 1 Year | \$1.00 |
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Subscriptions payable in advance.

Subscribers not receiving their copy regularly please notify the management at once. Changes in address should be sent in as soon as possible.

FOR ADVERTISING RATES, APPLY AT OFFICE.

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.

"Salus populi suprema est lex."

SATURDAY, MAR. 25, 1916.

Failure to Deliver Mail.

Bella Coola, with a population of about 400 residents, had at the arrival of this week's mail been without mail for 17 days.

It is supposed to receive mail once every week, but the mail due on March 10 did not arrive at all. And no apology or explanation for this failure is offered either by the government or the mail contractor. It was learned, however, in a round-about way that the steamer carrying the mail had grounded and could not proceed on the route, and presumably for that reason the parties concerned felt themselves relieved from their obligation. However this may be, no mail arrived, no notification was sent to a public anxiously waiting for its mail. Public indignation ran high because of the indifference and contemptuous manner in which this community was treated in this matter. It is a solemn obligation upon the part of the government to see that the mails are delivered promptly and regularly. Thus it should not be treated as a favor which a benignant government bestows upon an undeserving and therefore grateful community.

Mails carry matter which at times are of the highest importance to individuals and communities, and its non-arrival on time or nearly so may have the gravest consequences in financial losses and the missing of opportunities the value of which cannot be estimated. And here we have the spectacle of a highly civilized government in the 20th century treating a delinquency of this nature in a cavalierly fashion, deeming it not even worthy of an explanation, far less an apology.

We have here a telegraph owned and controlled by the government; but still the operator, a government employee is unable to give any information of or at what time the irregular mail may be looked for.

The stranding of the mail steamer is no adequate ground for the non-delivery of the mail to this point. If no large steamer was available to bring in passengers and freight, still there are many smaller crafts at Namu and Bella Bella that could have brought the mail to destination for a comparatively small sum. We hope the government will allow nothing of a similar nature

to occur again. We have in connection with this matter in mind a small country at the North in Europe, which is not supposed to be our equal in some respects, but it can give this country pointers in regard to promptitude in its delivery of the mail. Along its rock-ribbed, tempestuous coast, every little hamlet is notified by telegraph three hours before the arrival of the mail, and the mail contractor is heavily fined if he fails to deliver the mail on time. Should not our great Dominion be equally business like?

The Debt of British Columbia.

The Conservatives have tried to derive consolation from a comparison of the public debt of British Columbia with those of Alberta and Saskatchewan. British Columbia's debt, being in 1914, \$25,815,029; Saskatchewan, \$22,687,048; Alberta, \$26,733,178. But the supporters of our government and defenders of its extravagances neglect to mention that Saskatchewan has nearly eight millions invested in elevators, a provincial telephone system and various other profit bearing assets. Alberta has invested ten million dollars in a prosperous telephone system, and three more millions invested in assets bringing in revenue. The debt per capita in these provinces is another item which the Conservatives refrain from mentioning and which knocks the props from under the business government carried on by our great statesmen. Deducting debts which represent reproductive services and investments the net debt of Saskatchewan is \$21.29 per head, of Alberta \$23.28, and of British Columbia \$65.80.

Without being acquainted with the statements of the financial conditions of the prairie provinces for the last fiscal year, we may add that the debt of British Columbia according to the Public Accounts ending March 31, 1915, had risen to \$74.70 per head.

The condition in our province is even somewhat worse than it appears from these figures because, in calculating the debt per



head, the many Indians and Orientals are included in the population. In the face of these appalling figures, which do not include the railroad guarantees, our eminent financiers assure us that the credit of the province is good and that we can borrow millions more with which to provide salaries, build roads and otherwise pay the running expenses of the government.

The people are rather tired of these able statesmen and eminent financiers, and want them substituted with men of less lofty claims.

Germany's Precarious Position.

Not so long ago our well-known pro-German contemporary stated that Germany had now obtained everything that it started out to get and, it added with every appearance of joy, she could now entrench herself in her advanced positions in Russia, Poland, Serbia, France and Belgium, and hold them with comparative ease against any assault the enemy might make. But it seems our too frequent visitor was not in its employer's confidence in this respect. The Germans are now making the strongest offensive known in history in order to shatter the French front, and presumably reach Paris. It has expended the lives of its soldiers by the hundreds of thousands. Up till the middle of last week four hundred trains loaded with wounded had passed east from the Verdun region since the beginning of the attack, and in the cities of western Germany every public building, church and schoolhouse has been turned into a hospital.

It seems that Germany is in some desperate strait which makes it of the utmost importance to gain a decisive and great victory at this time.

That the German people are getting thoroughly weary of the war goes without saying. It has turned out so entirely different

from what they anticipated at its beginning. Then, they expected a short, brilliant, victorious campaign; similar to those they engaged in against Denmark, Austria and France. But alas for human expectations, almost twenty months of the most awful sacrifices have been endured and still the end seems as far off as ever. The discontent in Germany is growing. The loss of trade, the stoppage of industry, the restriction of food supplies, the fearful losses of men, bankrupted unworkable taxation, the loss of the world's respect and a fear for the future is a combination of disasters which must cause dismay to the stoutest spirits. It is showing itself in almost daily riots, especially in the cities along the Rhine. And a victory for the German arms is necessary at this time to restore in some degree the public confidence in its invincibility. Another reason for this strenuous effort is supposed to lie in the fact that Germany needs money and that she must win some great battle now in order to obtain another loan.

But her cause is unjust and she will fail which event will be to her ultimate benefit.

The Pacific Canadian.

We welcome to our table the first issue of The Pacific Canadian, a weekly newspaper published at New Westminster with Mr. Geo. Kennedy as editor and manager.

From a literary standpoint it will from the start occupy a high position which may be realized from even a cursory perusal. In politics it will endeavor to take an unbiased and just view. Just at present it will assume an independent Liberal position and work for the political regeneration of the province. With its high ideals, together with undoubted editorial ability, we bespeak for it a prosperous career.

Objecting to the Chairman.

It is generally admitted that almost any subject may be looked at from different points of view. This fact has been very forcibly brought home to us in the last few days. It had not occurred

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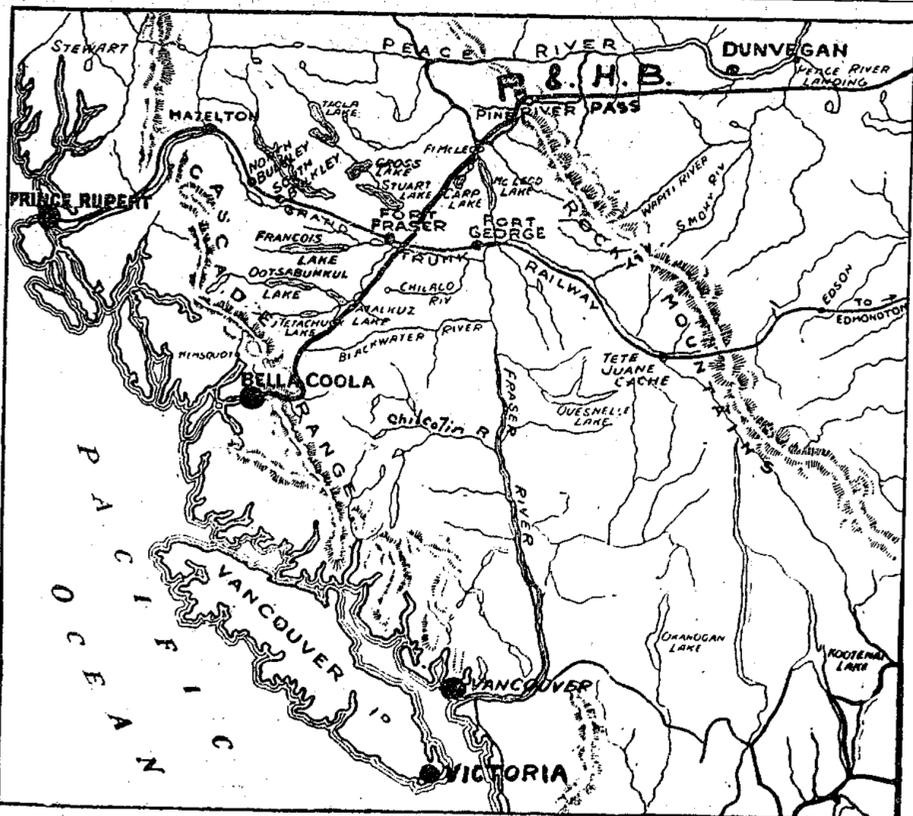
to us that there could be two opinions in regard to the duty of the public towards the Returned Soldiers Committee; every one should be interested and do all they can for those who risk life, limb and health in defense of the country. While this is not denied, yet there is a strong protest made by some good people against Bella Coola taking any steps in co-operation with the Provincial Returned Soldiers Commission. The reasons given are several, for instance, such as there being no immediate need of any work in that line. And that the needs of the Red Cross and Patriotic Funds are considerably more urgent at the present time. But the chief objection against the organization of a Returned Soldiers Committee at this time is that Dr. Young is at the head of the Provincial Commission.

It is pointed out that he is under a cloud of suspicion as to the reasons for his acceptance of \$105,000 worth of shares in the Pacific Coal Mines, Ltd. Dr. Young professes, and so does Mr. Arbutnot of the coal company, that these shares were a gift, pure and simple, as a token of friendship between these two gentlemen. The judge who had occasion to pronounce an opinion upon the transaction in an open session of the court said that such reasons for the transfer of the company's stock to Dr. Young was of a character that only very

credulous people would believe in everyday English what he said means that only fools would believe such a yarn. Dr. Young's connection with the Price Ellison cow deal is of a rather questionable nature. Mr. Bowser in preparing to meet the people at a general election thought it necessary to displace Dr. Young from his position as Minister of Education, etc., and appoint Thos. Taylor in his place. There must have been grave reasons for such a change which under other circumstances would have appeared utterly farcical. Mr. Bowser felt no doubt that he, as a great lawyer, was equal to the task of defending Dr. Young before the tribunal of the people and, therefore, threw him overboard.

Therefore, the objectors referred to above, assert strongly that Dr. Young is a discredited man and should not hold an honored position at the head of a patriotic committee. He is an offense in their sight and they will not support any organization of which he is the head. Under these circumstances it is surmised that the organization of the Returned Soldiers Committee in Bella Coola will not be acceptable to the people.

The Courier, while not caring to express an opinion upon the attitude of these good people, is willing to concede that their "point of order" seems to be well taken.



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S. S. "COQUITLAM" sails from Vancouver fortnightly, carrying Gasoline and Explosives, will call at Bella Coola by arrangement.

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Mr. Bowser the Man?

As every one knows, the result of the by-elections constituted in all the circumstances a most exemplary and overwhelming condemnation and repudiation of the Administration and all its works, past and present; for the Administration, technically speaking, is not dissociated for a moment in the public mind from the one which owns Premier Bowser as titular head. Having appealed to the by-elections, and by the by-elections having been emphatically condemned, it might be supposed that Premier Bowser, Attorney-General Bowser, Mr. Bowser the man—experienced politician, statesman if you will, jurist of more or less standing, ordinarily good (if not cheap) sport—would manfully, constitutionally, decently accept the verdict, abide by the result of his own invocation. But what do we find, instead? The crowning insult and effrontery, added to all the injury which this Government and its immediate predecessor have inflicted upon the

vital interests of the country, of lightly, flippantly, and contemptuously referring to and treating this most deliberate and crushing verdict of condemnation by the electorate as of no moment or significance at all—merely a puerile desire on the part of the people, as the Premier and his political and journalistic echoes assert, to give this precious government the benefit of "some opposition" in the Legislature! What sort of a hint would these seasoned saurians take that the country is sick unto death of the whole unsavory lot, and only wants them as quickly and decently as they can, to "crawl" into their holes and pull their holes in after them.—The Pacific Canadian.

The Vote of 1898 on Prohibition.
Strong pressure is being brought to bear upon the Dominion government at the present session to induce it to enact legislation for Dominion-wide prohibition. H. H. Stevens, member from Vancouver, has introduced in the House of Commons a bill to that effect. Prohibitionists of Manitoba have decided to present an

Mail Contract

SEALED TENDERS, addressed to the Postmaster General, will be received at Ottawa until Noon, on Friday, the 12th May next, for the conveyance of His Majesty's mails, on a proposed Contract for four years, once per week each way, over the BELLA COOLA Rural Mail Route No. 1, from the 1st July next.
Printed notices containing further information as to conditions of proposed Contract may be seen and blank forms of Tender may be obtained at the Post Offices of Bella Coola and Hagensborg, or at the office of the undersigned.
E. H. FLETCHER,
P. O. Inspector.
Post Office Inspector's Office,
Victoria, B. C., 10th March, 1915.

appeal to the Borden government, and others throughout Canada are no doubt making efforts in the same direction. Therefore it will now prove of interest to study the figures of the prohibition plebiscite taken on September 29, 1898, and it will be found that in the light of recent elections there can be no doubt but prohibition would carry in the country at large, with a handsome majority.

In 1898, out of a total vote of 543,058, there was a majority for prohibition of 12,286, which was not regarded as sufficient to warrant the passage of so drastic a law at that time.

Having regard to the special appeal made for prohibition as the result of the war, the tremendous advance in favor of temperance legislation all over the country, including Quebec, and the large increase in the western population where prohibition sentiment is strong, it is contended that an overwhelming majority of Canadians would now support prohibitory legislation for the duration of the war if such were passed by the Dominion parliament at its coming session.

The tabulated statement of the vote by provinces in 1898 shows that Quebec was the only province to cast a majority against the measure. That Quebec would repeat its verdict of 1898 is not probable. If its adverse majority were cut in two and the other provinces did equally as well as they did on the occasion of the former referendum a three-fifths majority would be secured in favor of prohibition. In all probability the other provinces would do a great deal better, especially in the west.

Since that time licensed hotels have been entirely wiped out in Saskatchewan, and the only places where liquor can be obtained is at a limited number of government dispensaries. Where formerly there were 450 licensed hotels there are now 23 government dispensaries.

Prohibition has also been carried in Alberta and Manitoba. In Prince Edward Island for several years.

VOTE BY PROVINCES.

| | In Favor | Against | Majority |
|---------------|----------|---------|----------|
| Ont. | 154,499 | 115,275 | 39,224 |
| Que. | 23,582 | 122,614 | 99,032 |
| N. S. | 34,646 | 5,402 | 29,244 |
| N. B. | 26,911 | 9,576 | 17,335 |
| P. E. I. | 9,461 | 1,146 | 8,315 |
| Man. | 12,416 | 2,978 | 9,441 |
| B. C. | 5,731 | 4,756 | 975 |
| Alta. | 1,708 | 1,331 | 377 |
| Assinib. | 3,919 | 1,166 | 2,753 |
| Sask. | 895 | 611 | 284 |

Majority against.

Total vote in favor of Prohibition, 278,387.
Total vote against Prohibition, 261,571.
Total majority for Prohibition, 18,916.
This majority was reduced to 12,286 by clerical errors and double voting.
Total vote cast for and against Prohibition, 543,058.

SYNOPSIS OF COAL MINING REGULATIONS

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 2,500 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.—3690.

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Large and small fruits, garden and field crops are grown to the best advantage. This fact was established at the Prince Rupert exhibition last year when farm produce from Bella Coola Valley carried away over twenty first prizes.

BELLA COOLA and the surrounding country possesses wonderful wealth in timber, as yet almost entirely undeveloped, and perhaps at no other point on the Northern Coast is there the same opportunity for a remunerative investment as in a saw mill at Bella Coola.

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The Courier

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Published every Saturday at BELLA COOLA, B. C.

BELLA COOLA RAILROAD—Continued
hope to put up later a big one. I wanted to start many things going there, and will, if I am spared, do so still, but I want to do them solidly and so strongly and well that little tinpot politicians even will be able to understand what is being done.

"I make no promises now as to when things will start to improve, it is impossible to say, for there are bigger forces at work than we can control, but we are working and watching and waiting, and we will act at the very earliest possible moment. The politicians so far have killed the Bella Coola railway, but those that are responsible for doing it will not always have the power."

(Signed)
W. D. Verschoyle.

A special school meeting of the Mackenzie School District was held last Saturday at the schoolhouse. It was called for the purpose of electing a trustee in the place of H. G. Anderson, resigned. O. T. Landry was elected.

The Lysdahl Sewing Circle met at the home of Mrs. P. K. Pedersen on Thursday. Among other things the meeting voted the necessary funds to get a washing machine, boiler, and a set of flat irons, to facilitate the laundry work at the hospital; also one dozen of table napkins for the use of the patients.

The officers of the Sewing Circle for the coming year are: Mrs. R. N. Liverton, president; Mrs. P. K. Pedersen, vice-president; Miss E. W. Thorsen, sec. treas.

The W. C. T. U. and Ladies Aid met at the home of Mrs. C. Carlson on Wednesday afternoon. It was decided to hold a concert on Saturday, April 8th, at 7:30 p. m., in aid of the Red Cross. Candies will be sold and a grab bag will be presided over by Mrs. Fougner and Mrs. Carlson. Admission to concert 25c; children under 15 years, free.

The following resolution was passed: "Resolved, that the W. C. T. U. continue the Red Cross work on the townsites as formerly (that is that money be raised at concerts, socials, etc., and that

the ladies continue knitting and sewing), but would welcome the organization of a general committee to undertake systematic collections and to work in the upper valley.

S. Le C. Grant, manager of the government experimental plot at Aytoun Ranch, desires us to inform the public that onions will prove to be a very profitable crop to raise in this valley. He left at our office some very large specimens which he had raised. These had been subjected to the very severe cold of last winter without their firmness and solidity having been impaired in the slightest degree.

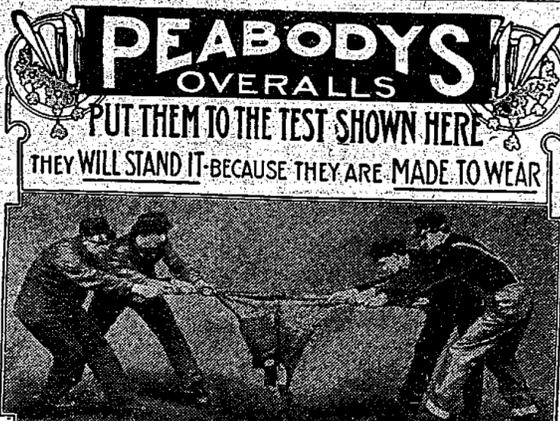
The large wholesale clothing firm, John W. Peck & Co. of Montreal and Winnipeg, has commenced the publication of a neat trade monthly called "Peck's Post." It will contain a lot of useful information for the clothing merchant and salesman, and what the Peck's Post will lack in this respect will assuredly be supplied by the firm's popular salesman, J. G. Millichamp, who takes care of his employer's interests on Vancouver Island, the Coast, along the Grand Trunk Pacific and at Dawson.

Another brand new publication of interest to every tiller of the soil in the province has also reached our sanctum this week. It is The Agricultural Journal, a monthly published by the Department of Agriculture at Victoria, B. C. The subscription price is only 25c per year and no farmer can afford to be without it. Its object is to provide a medium whereby information and advice may be conveyed to the farmers in a systematic and regular manner.

IMPROVE THE BREED.

The hatching season is beginning and the success you will attain depends upon the care and attention given the birds during the winter. If you are not satisfied with the flock you have now is the time to begin anew. Get some eggs from a breeder whose hens you know are good, and suitable for local conditions. Time spent on common barnyard variety is wasted as they barely pay for their feed. A flock of well-bred birds will work harder, put on more weight and they are always a source of pride and pleasure to the owner and an indication of progress and prosperity.

Write to the Department of Agriculture for free circular on gardening. It will help you.



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