The Kootenay Mail

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To Miners and Prospectors.

It is our desire to have the MAIL known far and wide as a reliable A 1 mining paper. To this end we ask the help of all prospectors and mining men who have the interest of the North Riding of West Kootenay at heart. It is in your power to give us very material help by sending in scraps of mining news which would otherwise remain unpublished. Every item, no matter how trivial it may appear to you, will be acceptable. If you have no pen, write with a pencil; if no paper, just tick it down on a piece of birch bark. If you are out of stamps send it all the same, we'll attend to that. Never mind grammatical compositions, flowing language, or elegant handwriting, just send us the facts; we'll do the rest. We ask only one thing: Do not exaggerate.

Kootenay Lodge No. 15 A.F.&A.M.

The regular meetings are held in the Masonic Temple, Bourne's Hall, on the third Monday in each month at 8 p. m. Visiting brethren cordially welcomed.

C. H. TEMPLE, SECRETARY.

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How They Used To Do It.

The following is from the *Journal of Mining*, 1868. We manage things differently in West Kootenay now, chiefly on account of the educational influences of the K. S. & T. syndicate:

There was a man, Jim Green by name,
He struck a ledge and staked a claim,
Then came to town by the overland 'bus,
And corralled a scientific cuss.

"Professor, I should like to sport
An assay and a swell report:
I want you to expatiate on my rock,
And take your dividends in stock."

The swell report was quickly done;
The ledge it was a fissure one,
Quite well defined; and the ore it run
At the rate of a thousand dollars a ton.

Jim mounted all his handsome things—
Two California diamond rings—
And a nugget breast-pin in his shirt
Shed golden luster o'er the dirt.

He landed and to Wall street went,
And there he found a nice old gent;
So Jim laid out to do his best,
And talked him till he couldn't rest.

"You ain't no notion how great," said he,
"Our mineral resources be;
Just one per cent. of what we get
Will pay the whole of the national debt.

"There ain't a better cow to milk
Than a first-class mine (that ain't a bilk);
She'll give you quartz—and here he cussed—
If that ain't level, then bust my crust."

In thirty days the thing was done;
And when Jim figgered what he'd won
He felt as cheap as a Yankee clock—
Ten whiskey-straights and the rest in stock!

There was a board of rich trustees
(A stock donation to each of these),
And they sold the shares on terms to please
To twenty widows and ten D.D's.

When Jim Green's turn to sell came round
There was nary buyer to be found,
And the treasurer kindly did advise
To hold the stock till it should rise.

As time elapsed they failed to get
The process from the sulphuret,
And ere they solved that fatal doubt
The blasted ledge had petered out!

The trustees all did abdicate;
The clergy preached man's lost estate;
The treasurer took a foreign tour;
The widows—Heaven protect the poor!

Jim Green upon a marble white
His name and this, "Dead Broke," did write;
Then lay down in an onion-bed,
And pulled the tombstone o'er his head.

RAILWAY RATES.

Undoubtedly the prosperity of a very large section of the Dominion depends on its people having moderate rates of freight for the transportation of their productions. The vast territories in the North West cannot advance or become the homes of multitudes and the "granary of the world" unless the rates at which grain can be shipped from them to the seaboard are as moderate as those enjoyed by agricultural communities in the Northwestern States. For a long time a certain section of the Canadian Press has been strenuously insisting that this is not the case, and while we have not seen any satisfactory testimony produced in support of these assertions, there is no doubt that much dissatisfaction has been raised and injury, both to the country and the business of the Canadian Pacific Railway, caused by the continual and persistent reiteration of the statements of excessive freight rates. The Dominion Government has now decided to appoint a Royal Commission to investigate the whole matter, and we are, therefore, likely soon to have an opportunity of knowing whether there is any real foundation for the charges made against the railway company. Meanwhile, the secretary of the company has written to the Government saying that it courts the fullest investigation of the subject. It certainly will be both to its credit and financial advantage should an impartial tribunal, like a Royal Commission, decide that the existing rates are as moderate, *mutatis mutandis*, as those charged on the American roads.—*B. C. Commerce.*

[Our contemporary seems to be in ignorance of the discrimination in C. P.R. freight rates right here in this province. There is no need to go so far afield as the Northwest Territories to ascertain if the charges brought against the Canadian Pacific are true or not. A carload of goods from any eastern point to Revelstoke has to pay the full freight to Vancouver, and the local charge from Vancouver back to Revelstoke in addition. Is not that discrimination? Even down river points have easier rates than this town, although there is the extra work of transferring to steamers and the handling at the port of landing. A carload of milk from Truro, Nova Scotia, can be sent to Nelson for $100 less than the freight charges would amount to if consigned to Revelstoke, although it has to be loaded on the steamer here, taken 100 miles by water, unloaded at Robson and put on the cars for Nelson, 28 miles further on. If that is not discrimination we should like to know what is.—ED.]

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BIG BEND.

The Vandall still panning out $100 a day.—Rich Strike of Free-milling Gold Ore on McCulloch Creek.—The Consolation and Last Chance on the point of Re-starting.—The North Star putting out Dust.—Men going up every day.

A. N. Beaton, one of the partners in the Vandall mine on French Creek, Big Bend, arrived down last Saturday with a bag of nuggets and coarse gold valued at $750. He reports the mine as paying handsomely, over $100 having been taken out in one day by four men. Mr. Beaton says: "On our claim we took out $250 in the last two days before I left, and since spring the total output has been several thousands. The wing dam on the Consolation property is in, and by the end of the month they will be drifting again. As they were on the pay streak when the flood struck them they will soon be producing bullion after the old rate of $100 a day."

H. Nestell is getting out lumber for a flume, and is pushing things ahead as fast as possible.

Herrick and Evans are building a wheel, etc., and by the last of the month will be drifting. Had it not been for the washout about the time of high water, French Creek, with its five prosperous gold mines, would by this time be making a most creditable record. Another month, at most, will see three out of the five producing the yellow metal with an unvarying output of not less than $100 a day each.

On McCulloch Creek the North Star people are still drifting on the old rim, and are getting out a little dust.

The Last Chance people are getting ready to work and in a few days more will be in active operation, with the very best chances of good pay.

On the Kirkup-Whalen claim they are ground sluicing, with six men.

Thirty men are working on French Creek, 14 on McCulloch Creek and 10 on Smith Creek.

Charles McLeod is doing development work on his quartz claim on the summit of McCulloch Creek. He has turned up a ledge of free-milling quartz which, if it holds out, is a bonanza. A considerable amount of the quartz shows free-milling gold in large quantities, while with a glass gold can be seen in all the crevices of the ore.

On Smith Creek J. W. Haskins and party and Andy Parks and party are sinking shafts on to the bedrock, while the Sol Holden mine is running full blast, the flume having been repaired.

James W. McFarlane is on Gold Stream.

Tom Downs and his gang of men are doing excellent work on the new bridge across Downie Creek. This structure will be one of the most substantial in the district.

Some splendid specimens of free-milling gold quartz was brought down by Laforme's pack train on Monday from two mineral claims located by Harry S. Howard on McCulloch Creek last week. The gold could be seen in large patches all over the quartz, and it was estimated that if the ledge at all equals the samples shown, the ore would assay $500 to the ton. It was not necessary to use a glass, as the gold stood out encrusted on the ore in rich clusters. These claims were recorded the same day by Mr. John Burke, of the Senate Hotel, who has a part interest in the claim. One of the claims is the Monarch, located on the 1st of August at the head of McCulloch Creek, on the divide between that creek and Camp Creek, and adjoins the Gold Hill claim on the north. The other claim is the Eureka, located on the 2nd of August on the divide between Camp and McCulloch Creeks, about a mile below the divide between French and McCulloch Creeks, and adjoins the Panhandle on the east. Both claims are 1500 feet square. If the ledges are similar to the specimens brought down, Mr. Howard has a bonanza.

John S. Patterson and F. T. Kegler left here on Thursday to prospect in Big Bend. The latter is an experienced prospector, being the owner and locator *of one or two good galena claims in the* Slocan. Parties are leaving every day for the Bend.

Taking things all round the prospects never looked brighter for the placer and deep diggings in the Bend, and there is not the least doubt that when the effects of the recent floods—which were the most disastrous in living memory—are overcome, an era of prosperity will commence in this already famous gold district.

Word has been received from Cariboo that the Horsefly and Cariboo hydraulic mines had a clean-up this week. The Horsefly cleaned up $4,880 for 106 hours' work and the Cariboo $5,100 for 47 hours' work.

The assessment in Spokane is decreased this year by about $10,000,000 in response to the almost universal clamour of property owners.

TWO MURDERS FOR PALTRY SUMS OF MONEY.

A most cold-blooded murder was discovered near Vancouver on Monday morning. James McKtory, road foreman of North Vancouver, last seen alive on Sunday night, was found dead in his cabin, horribly butchered, no less than eight wounds being discovered. He had just drawn three months' salary, but had deposited in the bank. When the body was found, the coat was over the face and nailed to the bed. An axe under the bed was covered with blood. There was $1.05 in deceased's pocket. The buckskin sack in which he carried his money was torn and empty on the floor.

An Indian named Squamish Charlie was arrested on suspicion. He has served five years for manslaughter and is a bad Indian. By careful inquiry it was ascertained that Charlie was seen coming from the direction of the scene of the tragedy under the influence of liquor. He protested innocence and said the spots of blood on the left side of his trousers and coat were berry stains. Coroner McGuigan examined the spots *and pronounced them blood. If Charlie is* guilty the white man who sold him liquor may have two men's lives to answer for.

Israel Roy was found dead in his camp near Morinville, in the neighborhood of Edmonton, on Saturday afternoon. He had been struck on the head with a club and stabbed in the region of the heart. A club with blood on it was found near the body. Roy was suppose to have a large sum of money, but it has been ascertained he had only $10, all of which was taken. Two dollars and his watch were left on the body. No arrests have been made as yet.

THE PILOT BAY SMELTER.

The Northwest *Mining Review* says: "The smelter at Pilot Bay, B.C., has been sold by Franklin Farrell to A. B. Hendryx, Mr. A. E. Tomlinson, superintendent of the Butte smelter, having closed the transaction for Mr. Farrell. The building of the smelter was ill-advised and can never be made to pay unless the proposed Crow's Nest Pass railroad or another passing the same country is extended to the Bay, for the fluxing ores, coal and iron are not to be found in the vicinity, and in consequence must be had elsewhere. A more suitable location for a smelter would be at some convenient point where all kinds of ores could be secured without long hauls, or, where that is impossible, at a point where transportation is afforded at all times. Nelson, Kaslo, New Denver, Revelstoke or Nakusp would be better smelting points."

THE NEW STATE.

Now that Utah is made a state in the Union, the position of the Mormons will be somewhat peculiar, and it will be interesting (says the London *Globe*) to see whether they will be successful in getting a majority in the State Legislature. Should they do so the position of affairs will be somewhat strange if they attempt, as they possibly will, to legalize their peculiar marriage customs. Poligamy is, of course, forbidden by the laws of the United States; yet the individual states have exercised so much freedom in the matter of the marriage laws, that it will be no easy matter for the Federal Government to insist upon interfering with them in the new state. A curious factor in the case, will probably be that the position of States admitted since the original foundation of the Republic is somewhat peculiar. The original 13 States drew up the Constitution, to which those since admitted have only been permitted to give their adhesion; but cannot in practice alter. For this reason it has been held by some of the highest authorities that the real sovereignty in the United States lies in that original assembly at Philadelphia of the 13 States. The tabernacle at Salt Lake City, the capital of Utah, is, in respect of acoustic properties, the most remarkable place of worship in the world. It is constructed to hold 25,000 people, yet it is possible for a person standing at one end to distinctly hear the sound of a pin dropped into a hat at the other, a test of its curious power to convey sound which is offered to every stranger who is shown over the the building.

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WEEDS.

Weeds are the only things which thrive and seed during such weather as we have recently had. This country seems to be the natural home of every kind of weed, with the exceptions of the stinging nettle and the dandy lion. We have a matweed here that grows very rapidly. It spreads itself flat on the ground in a circular shape, and its long arms radiating out from a central root send out cross shoots which interlace and form a very good imitation of a round doormat or a huge spider's web. It is no use *cutting* weeds in this district. They must be rooted out when young, or else the task of keeping the garden clean may just as well be given up as an impossible job.

Mr. A. Mackay, of the experimental farm, in speaking at Grenfell of the terrible consequences of allowing the French weed to thrive in the Territories, said it is one of the worst weeds in the country. That weed in connection with dairying, he says, would ruin the best prospects. It is a stink weed which will affect the breath of a cow so much that it will make the butter useless. The weed kills everything beside it. It will kill out grass and all kinds of grain, and in a very few years will take entire possession of the ground. It seeds and ripens three times a year even in our short season.—*Vidette.*

Congress has appropriated a million dollars for the extermination of the Russian tumbleweed.

A Nice Way to Treat Canadians.

The sub-committee of the House Committee on Immigration and Naturalization, having charge of the bill of Mr. Lockwood, of New York, for the necessary and better protection of American labor and enforcement of the law of domicile, last week reported to the full committee favorably. The bill forbids entrance into the United States of subjects of the Dominion of Canada or Mexico whose purpose is to perform labor service of any kind, and makes violation of this provision punishable by a fine of $100, or imprisonment for ninety days. It also makes it unlawful for any master or owners of any American vessel plying on the Great Lakes, the inland lakes or rivers, located in whole or in part within the United States, to knowingly employ on their vessels any sailor, deck-hand or laborer who is not a citizen of the United States, or shall have been permanently domiciled in the United States for at least six months prior to his working. All aliens coming to the United States to peform labor service of any kind are to be examined at the port of entry, and if they do not possess $75 they are not permitted to land and all alien miners are required to posess $30 before they can land. The full committee discussed the bill briefly, but reached no agreement.

Cleverly Caught.

Dana Krum, one of the conductors on the Erie railway, was approached before train time by an unknown man, who spoke to him as if he had known him for years. "I say, Dan," said he, "I have forgotten my pass, and I want to go to Susquehanna. I am a fireman on the road, you know." But the conductor told him he ought to have a pass with him; it was the safest way. Pretty soon Dana came along to collect tickets. Seeing his man, he spoke when he reached him, "Say, my friend, have you the time with you?" "Yes," said he, "it is 20 minutes past nine." "Oh, it is, is it? Now, if you don't show me your pass or fare, I'll stop the train. There is no railway man that I ever saw who would say '20 minutes past nine.' He would say 'nine-twenty.'" He settled.

A nice-looking old lady, with a snowy circle of lace about her head, sat in a Wabash-avenue car the other day, and drew up her skirts nervously, lest the cataract of tobacco juice that was pouring from the mouths of two loafers next her should deluge them. "Conductor," she asked timidly, when he came in, "isn't it against the rules to spit on the floor of the car?" "No, ma'am," replied the gallant conductor, "Spit wherever you like."

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NOTICE.

NOTICE is hereby given, that a sitting of the County Court will be holden at Revelstoke, B.C., on Thursday, the 16th day of August, A.D. 1894, at 10 o'clock in the forenoon.

J. KIRKUP,
Registrar County Court.
Revelstoke, June 7th, 1894.

Steamer ARROW
LEAVES
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Mondays and Thurdays at 8 a.m.
—FOR—
Hall's Landing, Thomson's Landing, Hot Springs and Nakusp.

POWER OF THE HUMAN EYE.

Result of Subduing a Cast-iron Bulldog.

A family druggist in North Chicago happened to look up from the tub of fruit syrup he was compounding, and was astonished to see the shattered wreck of a man enter and throw itself upon the floor. The wreck was in an awful condition, bleeding, like Col. Marco Bozaris, at every vein.

"What in the name of Sir Walter Scott has happened to you?" cried the druggist.

"Pour a few quarts of arnica on me," responded the wearily, "and I'll tell you."

The druggist stitched him up and soaked him in his healing fluids and listened for the story.

"I live on Clifton avenue," said the wreck. "I have lately been reading up on lion tamers, and I came to the conclusion that the human eye would subdue any beast that walks. I tried it on all the animals in the neighborhood and it seemed to work all right. For two or three weeks I went around subduing things with my eye. Then I got into an argument with a neighbor on the question. He held that a really fierce animal did not care a red cent for the human eye. I offered to bet $10 that he couldn't produce an animal that I could not conquer by looking at."

"I can guess the rest," said the druggist; "he trotted out a big mastiff with a mouth as big as the arctic regions, and you tried to subdue it, and it wouldn't subdue to amount to anything; and in the grand symposium that followed, the dog tried to make a record, at plain and fancy chewing and succeeded."

"That sounds reasonable enough," replied the wreck wearily, "but it wasn't the way it happened. My neighbor took me into a strange yard by moonlight and asked me to hypnotize a big sorrel bulldog that was sitting on the porch. Several strangers were there to see the experiment, and I went to work. I stared into the orbs of the beast for 15 minutes, and it didn't seem to move a muscle; then, to show that was thoroughly subdued I went up and put my hand on its head. It was a cast iron bull dog, and was subdued when it first came from the foundry. While the spectators were laughing I sailed into my neighbor, determined to whip him all around the block and up and down the alley, and you see the result. I wish that you would pour a pint of oil of sassafras down my neck.—*Chicago Tribune.*

Two Ways of Getting There.

The following case, which has recently occurred, may convey a useful hint to candidates for the army. A and B went up together for Woolwich. A passed, B was plucked. B joined the militia, and eventually got an artillery commission by that route. A went through his course at Woolwich, and on receiving his commission went out to Malta. There he found B in the same corps as his superior officer. So the last shall be first, and the first last. —*Western Independent.*

When a Western editor is in a hurry, he doesn't waste words by saying "It rained." He simply writes: "After many days of arid dessication, the vapoury captains marshalled their thundering hosts, and poured out upon scorching humanity and the thoroughly incinerated vegetation a few inches of *aqua pluvialis.*"

For a large glass of Doering & Marstrand's Lager call at the Union Hotel.

The Kootenay Mail

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R. W. NORTHEY,
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To whom all communications should be addressed.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 11, 1894.

THE *Province* is generally one of the most accurate and careful of our exchanges, but even that most commendable journal is sometimes caught napping. In its mining column last week it gives the Nakusp *Ledge* credit for an article which originated in this paper, and from which it was clipped by the *Ledge* the previous week. Now as the *Province* exchanges with the MAIL, it certainly received the copy which contained the article in question—a report of gold being found below a false bedrock on Lardeau river. Of course we are only too pleased to have our mining news get a good position in the columns of our city contemporaries, but as it so often occurs that our articles are credited to other papers, we take this opportunity of pointing out to Brer *Province* that it would be more considerate to look through the exchanges as they arrive. A reputation for correctness and carefulness is a great thing for any journal to possess, but it may very easily be lost.

REVELSTOKE FIRE BRIGADE.

The regular monthly meeting of the Fire Brigade was held on Tuesday evening in the Fire Hall. Chief W. M. BROWN occupied the chair.

The question of removing the hall to a more suitable location occupied the attention of the meeting for a considerable time. The whole matter was finally referred to a committee composed of Messrs. Cowan, Woodrow, Stone and John Abrahamson, who will report on a suitable site at the next meeting.

There was considerable discussion on the ways and means of raising the necessary funds to meet the payments which will fall due in the near future, and also for the purchase of several appliances which are necessary to thoroughly equip the brigade. Many suggestions were made, but the one which the members took most kindly to was that of holding some sort of entertainment, and when a motion to that effect was put there was not a dissenting voice.

A committee, consisting of Messrs. Barber, Coursier, Woodrow, Wells, Sutherland and Ablin, was appointed. The Brigade realized handsomely on the previous entertainment, and there is no reason to doubt that with an energetic committee, such as the one appointed at last Tuesday's meeting, any entertainment which they may organize will be an unqualified success. The secretary was instructed to see to the purchase of ladders, hooks and pails.

It was also decided to enforce the penalties prescribed by the by-laws, in the case of those members who absent themselves from the regular meetings without sufficient cause.

Messrs. T. Cadman, J. P. Sutherland and E. Picard were elected members.

Revising the Dominion Voters' List.

The revising officers of the Dominion voters' list in British Columbia are:—Yale, Cariboo and Kootenay districts—Judge Walkem, Kamloops. Victoria—E. Wooton. Vancouver Island district—Judge Crease. Burrard district—R. W. Armstrong, barrister, Vancouver. Westminster—Wm. Gray, barrister, New Westminster. Instructions to all revising officers have been sent out from the State department, and the work of revision will soon be under way.

A Simple Method of Saving Fine Gold.

An Australian mining journal is responsible for the following story: A miner who was obtaining fine gold by sluicing, was asked how he saved it. He replied that he employed the common amalgamation process, but used a novel and ingenious retort for the purpose. "After amalgamating with quicksilver I get a potato," said the miner, "cut off one end, and scoop out a cavity in it large enough to take my ball of amalgam. I next take a spade or piece of flat iron, and place that over the fire, and then upon that I place the potato with the cut side down. As the amalgam gets hot the silver evaporates and goes all through the potato, but it can't get through the skin. When it gets cool, I have my gold button on the spade and my silver all in globules in the potato. I break that potato up under water, and I have all my silver.

It is reported that Caesario's mother has asked Madame Carnot not to intercede for her son. A letter has been published from Caesario to his mother in which he asks: "What must you think of me?" and adds, "you cannot think I am an assassin. If I committed this act it was simply because I was tired of looking on such an infamous world."

A despatch from Buenos Ayres says that Judge Salts, of the federal court has granted the extradition of Jabez Spencer Balfour, the central figure in the Liberator Building Society frauds.

The statistical abstract this year will show the population of the two sexes to be as follows: Ontario, in 1881, 508 men to every 494 women. In the whole of Canada, in 1881, 506 men to 494 women, and in 1891, 509 men to 494 women.

THINGS SAID AND DONE ABOUT TOWN.

[BY DIOGENES.]

(Continued from page 4.)

What a state the roads have been in from the dry weather. The wheels of vehicles have ground the dust as fine as flour, if not quite so white, and this powder lies to the depth of several inches, so that pedestrians have to plod along ankle-deep and a vehicle presents the appearance of a moving cloud of dust. And when the wind blows, just imagine the beauty of the scene. If there were a water system here, the streets could be sprinkled at a trifling cost. There would be a great saving of clothes, to say nothing of the merchandise and fruit exposed for sale. One of the merchants at the station went up the mountain this week to find a good stream of water, for the purpose of piping it down to his store, so as to be able to attach a hose for sprinkling the street, washing the store windows and for fire extinguishing purposes, but the nearest stream was that which flows by Mr. Tapping's premises.

* * *

Since I commenced writing, the welcome rain has come—and gone—and oh, what a relief. It has been a thorough, good soaking rain, and the gardens are already beginning to show the effects of such a shower bath as they have not experienced for the whole summer. Cabbages are behind, but will have plenty of time to catch up now. Cauliflower are very late, the head only just appearing in advanced specimens. Potatoes, despite the long drouth, are a fairly good crop. Turnips are small, and likely to remain so. Peas are shrivelled up and gone, the vines being yellow and almost lifeless for want of moisture. Beans are also a failure. Carrots and other roots may be said to be up to the average. Flowers have stood the drouth better than the vegetables, but have been badly punished. Of the berry crop rasps are still plentiful, but owing to the bush fires are very scarce in the immediate neighborhood. Pails brought in by Chinamen can be bought for six bits and one dollar. Blueberries have been exceptionally large, but are getting very scarce on account of the bushes being burnt up. The rain brings some hope of a supply of potatoes, cabbages, turnips and carrots for the winter, which, had the drouth continued a short time longer, would have been impossible.

* * *

I was very much surprised this week at some information I received regarding the manner in which the C. P. R. discriminates against Revelstoke. Paper and printers' supplies are laid down at Nakusp considerably cheaper than at Revelstoke, although there is the addition of 60 miles by steamboat and two more handlings. The Nakusp *Ledge* can obtain its paper, either from Spokane, Toronto or Winnipeg, at a cheaper rate than the Kootenay *Mail*. A Revelstoke firm made enquiries as to the freight rate on a car of condensed milk from Truro, Nova Scotia, and found that it would cost them exactly $100 more than it costs to carry a carload of the same milk from the same place to Nelson, notwithstanding the extra handling and further distance. A carload contains 400 cases, and the difference in the freight rate is 25 cents a case in favor of Nelson. A carload of merchandise is carried from any eastern point to Vancouver 67 cents per 100 lbs. cheaper than to Revelstoke, although the distance is 380 miles further. If a Royal Commission is needed to adjust the C. P. R.'s freight rates in the Northwest, surely it is needed here.

* * *

I have some good news for the Revelstoke public this week. The event is a momentous one in the history of this town. It is no less a fact than that titles to lots here can be registered! I have seen a letter from the deputy-registrar general at Victoria, written to a Revelstokian who had sent the deeds of a lot on the smelter estate for registry. The letter was short, but of vital importance. It said: "Dear Sir,—Your deeds are placed on registry. Registration fee $1.00." So the long-wished-for has at last come to pass. Last year the same gentleman sent the deeds to Victoria for registration, but had them returned with the intimation that the whole townsite was "registered in the name of A. S. Farwell, and until that name was removed no other could be placed on the registry in connection with lots in Revelstoke." What has happened? Is Farwell's name removed? If so, the "dispute" must be nearing its end. Whatever the cause, the effect is clear—lot owners in this town can now register their titles like freemen in other parts of the Dominion. Now we want a registry office right here.

* * *

I am told that as soon as the dispute is settled, we shall have a banking establishment in this town. In these days of rapid changes, when a town will emerge from its chrysalis state into a full-fledged soarer in a few months, a bank is a necessity. Our business men are often hampered in their transactions by the want of money at a moment's notice, and a banking account two or three hundred miles away is sometimes of little use. Now that the dispute is in a fair way of settlement, if not already settled, the first bank that opens a branch here will have all the business, not only of Revelstoke, but of the great mining and ranching country tributary to it.

* * *

Mr. Mara said the other day, in conversation with one of our citizens, that he thought the MAIL was "down on him." Not so, Mr. Mara. It has merely been "down" on your neglect of this particular portion of your constituency. What have you done for Revelstoke in all the years you have represented it in the Dominion House, until very recently? But I must say you have shown great improvement during the past few months, and I will not be mean enough to say that the near approach of a general election has been the cause of your activity. Your effort to get mining machinery brought into West Kootenay free of duty deserves our thanks. Your work in connection with the river bank was not overlooked here. The fact of your obtaining a post office for Trout Lake City, will not be forgotten by the miners of the Lardeau. But—there is a big but—why did you not strive ages ago for the removal of the main cause that kept Revelstoke in the gutter for eight long years? It has been said that the steamboat company's 26 acres would have been adversely affected by the settlement of the dispute. Why did you wait until the river carried away some of the most valuable land in the townsite before you got the Government to see that it was their duty to protect, not only the property they claimed, but also the property of citizens who bought their land from the Dominion Government, and paid for it in hard cash? Again, compare the action of the Provincial and the Dominion Governments in regard to the railway belt. Has the latter built a trail or a bridge, or even made a footpath on the land they claim? They sold many lots in Revelstoke, though, and kept the money. Mr. Mara may rest assured that the MAIL is not "down on him," but as a public servant his actions were open to criticism, sometimes adversely.

* * *

Since I wrote last week concerning the electric lighting of this town, I have had a talk with a man who knows a good deal about the subject. He tells me it would be better to put in a large plant at the start, as a small plant to experiment with would be an entire waste of money. As the needs of the town grew larger and a larger plant was needed, the one in use would have to be thrown aside in its entirety. No portion of it could be utilized, and the expense of purchasing a new and larger outfit would be just as great as if we had no plant at all. Therefore, we shall have to wait for the electric light until the town is wealthy enough to purchase a tolerably large plant at the outset. This may not be so far off as some imagine.

* * *

There is a laugh on a lower town butcher who lost a sheep carcass last Thursday. He had lightened his load at the hill, on his way to the Arrow, placing the carcass in what he thought safety, but on his return it was gone. There was an excited butcher on the road for some time until at last he discovered his missing property, and none too soon. A foraging party from the tennis court had made the find, and had carried it back in great glee, and the early-morning players were contemplating a feast when the owner arrived.

* * *

I went to see McKee Rankin last night and came away with the idea that he is a great actor. His presentation of the great, burly, soft-hearted, yet remarkably astute Canuck was a grand conception. His merriment when things went lovely, his pathos when his emotions were worked upon, and his grief when disaster touched him, were all sublime realizations. Yes, McKee Rankin is a great actor—as a Canuck at least. But what a tittering audience we had. They laughed in the wrong place. When the scene being enacted before them was most affecting, when tears should have held sway, some omadhoun would start a-gigling and others of the same ilk would take up the strain and the whole pathetic effect was turned into the ludicrous. When Cy Stebbins took the mortgage out of his pocket and handed it to Jean it was not a time for laughter, yet laugh a great many did. And when Jean said "It must be paid, Cy," and asks what he will do, and Cy answers, "Well, there's the poor house," it was real enough to draw tears instead of the idiotic laughter that went up from a large portion of the audience. This sort of people spoil the enjoyment of those whose souls are tuned to a more sensitive chord. I suppose it is no use berating them, as they really cannot understand the finer sentiments. They go to the theatre to laugh and laugh they will, but I should fancy such plays as "Muldoon's Picnic" would be more in their line.

* * *

Frank LoCasto, the barber, looked with longing eyes on the long hair displayed by the Yankee farmer. It really wanted cutting very badly, and a scissors in the hands of our skilful tonsorial artist would have had a delightful half hour perambulating among the elfin locks of the homely Zeebedee. The company's scenery is *non est* for the time being, but they have several trunks full of costumes wigs, etc., and the get-up last night was so creditable that the absence of scenery was not noticed. Mrs. Stebbins was a very young old woman, and what I took notice of was the fact that she looked prettier as Mrs. Stebbins than as the hired girl. Grey hair and rosy cheeks make an attractive combination. In fact, I think grey hair is nearly always becoming to a woman, whether old or young. Jim Hogan's voice sounded a little unnatural, but as the actor was using Jim Hogan's voice, and not his own, it was overlooked by the audience. Jean Baptiste Cadeau and Cy Stebbins put me in mind of Josh Whitcombe and Cy Prime in the "Old Homestead." I forget now who took the part of Josh Whitcombe when I saw the play, but I don't think it was McKee Rankin, who, I believe, is at his best in the "Danites." Miss Patrice O'Neill's face and figure seemed strangely familiar to me, but I could not locate her.

No appeal has been made from the conviction of Caserio, the assassian of President Carnot. His execution will take place probably within two weeks.

The License Commissioners of Hamilton, Ontario, are cutting off twenty saloon and tavern-keepers, and depriving ten grocers of their liquor licenses.

Sandow, the professional strong man, was married last Wednesday at Manchester to Miss Blanche Brooks, the daughter of a Manchester photographer.

The Winnipeg Industrial Exhibition was a decided success this year. The attendance during the four days was 32,000, equal to about 20 per cent. of the entire population of the province.

The Galt branch of the old Great Western Railway was opened for traffic 40 years ago, and during all these years not a passenger has been killed on the line or even seriously injured.

The Keewatin Water Power Company expect to furnish power for Winnipeg establishments over electric wires from their new dam. The current will have to be transmitted over 140 miles of wire.

It is reported that the British government has instructed the commander of the British cruiser Mohawk to act in accord with the U. S. authorities at Bluefields, and to refrain from interference except to protect British subjects and to maintain treaty rights.

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H. N. COURSIER.

LOCAL ITEMS.

Doering & Marstrand's Iced Lager on draught at the Union Hotel.

Mr. Thomas Richardson, of Illecillewaet, had a cow killed on the track there last week.

There is talk of building a parsonage on the recently cleared grounds of the Methodist church.

The express from the west on Tuesday was about 14 hours late owing to a stoppage of traffic at Notch Hill.

Miss Lindsay, of Fort William, arrived in town last Saturday, and is staying with Mr. and Mrs. McKay.

Bourne Bros. have received a consignment of apples, pears, peaches, plums and apricots.

A consignment of delicious pears—luscious, ripe and large—has just been opened at F. B. Wells'.

Mr. Frank Bourne, of Bourne Bros.' Nakusp and New Denver establishments, is in town on a business trip.

James Kirkup, who has been doing duty as provincial policeman, No. 2, left last Thursday to work on the Trout Lake wagon road.

Acting Gold Commissioner Goepel arrived from the west on Tuesday, and went down the river on the Lytton yesterday.

Services will be held in the Presbyterian church to-morrow at 7.30 p.m. Rev. C. T. Baylis, pastor. Sunday-school in the church at 2.30.

Judge Spinks will hold a sitting of the County Court here on Thursday next. The docket will be a very light one.

Mr. R. Simpson has made a new road for himself to the sawmill. He cut it down the hill back of Plummer's boarding house.

Miss Maude Maguire, of Salmon Arm, Miss Mabel Thomson, of Thomson's Landing, and the Misses Hobbs, of Donald, are visiting friends in town.

The C.P.R. Co. has been having development work done on their mining claims in the Lardeau. The property lies south-east of Trout Lake and was located by J. W. Haskins.

A young people's party was given by Mr. and Mrs. Thos. Lewis on Wednesday night, in honor of Miss Hobbs, of Donald, who is on a visit. A very pleasant evening was spent in games and pastimes, there being about 16 present.

Rev. C. A. Procunier left last evening for Enderby to take part in the anniversary services of the Methodist Church there on Sunday and Monday, and preach the anniversary sermon. He will return on Tuesday. Service in the Methodist Church here will be conducted as usual to-morrow.

The Vernon *News* says that Genelle's sawmill will be moved from Tappen Siding to Sicamous this fall, and that another mill will probably be located at Enderby. It is a pity that forest fires have destroyed so much valuable timber in the neighborhood of the C. P. R. between here and Sicamous.

Jack McDonald owner of two galena claims on the Glengarry group up Fish Creek, came up on Wednesday with some specimens from his claims. The samples were assayed by Mr. A. H. Holdich and went 1,000 ozs. silver to the ton. The ore also carries considerable copper and a percentage of gold.

Magistrate Fraser had a case on at Illecillewaet on Wednesday. The charge was that of threatening and disturbing the peace, and S. Anderson and Mr. Fowler were plaintiff and defendant respectively. After hearing the evidence, the magistrate dismissed the case with costs to the plaintiff.

The Winnipeg *Commercial* eclipses all its former efforts in the shape of a supplement this year. The supplement received last week is called the "Panoramic Supplement," and it well deserves the name, containing no less than 120 photo-gravure panoramic views of places and towns along the C. P. R. from Port Arthur to Victoria, B. C. To particularize would take about a column, but the Rocky Mountain views are excellent. A splendid work, got up in masterful style, the letter press being clear and full of information. We believe it is the best of its kind ever published in the Dominion.

Mrs. Bickerton will shortly leave for Montreal in order to undergo an operation.

Thos. McMahon, foreman of a C. P. R. extra gang, met with a painful accident at Mountain Creek last Monday. While alighting from a train he stepped on a piece of timber, which rolled with him and resulted in fracturing the small bones of one ankle. He was taken to New Westminster for treatment.

Hon. Wilfried Laurier, accompanied by several prominent politicians, will visit B. C. next month. Madame Laurier and Miss Davies will also be members of the party. They will stop off at Banff, and the Liberal leader is expected to speak at Kamloops, Vernon and other interior towns. Why not get up a reception committee here, and make an effort to get Mr. Laurier to address a Revelstoke meeting?

Mr. Clarence B. Hume has been appointed postmaster at Trout Lake City. The Postmaster-General has decided to establish an office in that coming town, which is almost in the centre of the rich Lardeau mining district. The office will be started in working order as soon as P. O. Inspector Fletcher can make the arrangements. Mr. Mara is to be congratulated on doing something for the district at last.

Mr. John McTavish, brother of James McTavish, who was killed by falling from the Twin Butte trestle while repairing the work destroyed by the floods, two months ago, has been in town some days settling up his brother's estate, of which he is the administrator. He came all the way from Michigan, and leaves this morning for Ontario, where his parents reside. All claims against deceased should be sent to the administrator without delay. See advt. in this issue.

Mr. McLean, father of Dr. McLean, who has been residing here with his son for over a year, leaves Revelstoke next Thursday for his home in the east. He will spend a great deal of time on the homeward trip, expecting to arrive in Ontario about Christmas. He intends going first to the coast, thence to San Francisco and other places in California. Taking the Southern Pacific he will go to Salt Lake City and Denver, where he will put in some months with old friends. Mr. McLean is greatly pleased with Revelstoke, and says he has benefitted very much from our mountain climate. He will come back here at no distant date.

Mr. Wm. McKenzie returned this week from Galena Bay, which he had not seen since the great flood of two months ago. He found his ranch there in a state of utter devastation. Two houses in which had been stored utensils, tools, building material, etc., etc., were entirely gone with every thing they contained. Not a vestige of the houses or their contents were left, and the places where they stood were buried under driftwood and could scarcely be located. A body of valuable timber which he thought much of, had been swept down by a cyclone a quarter of a mile wide, and the wreckage was piled twenty feet deep on the land where the forest had been standing. After all, Mr. McKenzie will not give up the place, as he believes the railroad down the Arrow Lake will come that way. Sam Hill, whose ranch adjoins and suffered badly, is working on the Trout Lake wagon road.

The Burned Steamer Columbia.

Mr. J. A. Mara, M.P., returned on Monday from the lower Kootenay on the Lytton. Speaking of the burning of the steamer Colbmbia he said that the fire had originated in the crew's quarters, and it was thought that one of the deckhands had gone asleep with a burning pipe in his pocket. The fire spread so rapidly that those aboard had barely time to escape with such clothing as could be grabbed in their haste. The fire was discovered about 1.30 a.m. and in ten minutes the vessel was a total wreck and what was left unburned of her now lies under eight feet of water. As the boilers were heavily coated with abestos it is thought they will still be of use, otherwise the steamer is a total loss, save for an insurance of $15,000. Among the passengers who suffered through loss of baggage were Misses Imandt and Maxwell, the lady correspondents of the Dundee Courier, who lost almost all the notes of their trip as well as some money.

This year's harvest in Manitoba will be earlier than for many years past. It is believed that the average will be 20 bushels to the acre.

DEMAND FOR SILVER.

London advices indicate an increasing demand for Mexican dollars in Chinese and Japanese trade, with prospects of a rush in the white metal business. If necessary the mints throughout Mexico will double their forces to supply the demand. The International and Mortgage Bank has declared a provisional dividend for the current calendar of 3 per cent.

The war between China and Japan caused a sharp demand to appear for Mexican dollars and gave a stimulus to the London silver market. The movement, however, was short lived, and at the close of the week quotations were a trifle lower. Silver prices.—London, July 27th, 28 11-16d; New York, 62½.

McKee Rankin at Revelstoke.

Last night Revelstokians had a treat in the appearance here of the McKee Rankin company in the celebrated play of "The Canuck." It was a matter of great surprise that such stars as McKee Rankin and Miss Jeffreys Lewis should condescend to peform in a small mountain town, but it appears the company are bound for San Francisco, and owing to the great railroad strike in the States they were unable to get through on any of the American lines. Consequently they came by way of the Canadian Pacific. They determined to take in as much of the country as possible and enjoy their trip westward, and as their scenery and effects had gone via the American route, they had only a few trunks of personal effects to bother about. They went as far north as Edmonton, played one night at Golden, reached town last evening, and performed in Peterson's Hall to a fair-sized audience. The piece put on the boards was Mr. Rankin's own French-Canadian drama, "The Canuck," and the acting quite realized the expectations of the audience. As Jean Baptiste Cadeaux Mr. Rankin moved the house to tears or laughter at his will, and his great reputation was fully sustained. Miss Jeffreys Lewis, as Hester Keene, although she had comparatively little to do, did her part to perfection, her full, rounded figure and handsome face creating a favorable impression and a belief that she was capable of greater things. To-night's play will show Miss Lewis at her best, it being her stock piece. "Forget-Me-Not" had a run of 112 consecutive nights in New York, and a treat is in store for those who attend to-night. Mr. Geo. T. Ulmer, as Cy Stebbins, was first-class, out-and-out. The character is somewhat similar to that of Cy. Prime in "The Old Homestead," to which "The Canuck" bears a tolerable resemblance. Mr. Ulmer did the part of a Vermont farmer to perfection, and his get-up was without a flaw. Tom Stebbins, by Mr. Coulter Brinker, was rather a difficult part in which to get a good showing, but he pleased the audience. Mr. H. Levian, as Zeebedee Hawley, hit it off in good style and created a considerable part of the hilarity which at times convulsed not only the boys, but the more staid portion of the audience. Jim Hogan was a little too nonchalent and the assumed voice marred the part quite a little. Archange, Jean's daughter, as played by Miss Patrice O'Neill, while not soaring to any great height, was very pleasing, and the song she sang to her father was sweetly rendered and listened to with rapt attention. Mrs. Stebbins, by Miss Beth Ross, was in some portions cleverly portrayed, albeit the face was much too youthful for the silvery hair.

To-night the company will produce Miss Jeffrey Lewis' play "Forget-Me-Not," and it is hoped the townspeople will not miss a treat that may not fall to their lot for a long time to come.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[ADDRESSED TO THE EDITOR.]

The Editor cannot be responsible for the opinions expressed by correspondents.

Will Damage Kellie, if True.

DEAR SIR,—Will you give me space in your paper for a few lines in regard to the Big Bend trail? I was foreman on the upper portion of the trail this spring and was left in charge of the Downie Creek bridge, which was partly completed when the late political contest came off. By some means the powers that be found out that I voted for Mr. Brown, the Opposition candidate. After the election Mr. Downs was sent up in charge, and to finish the bridge. No intimation, either written or verbal, was sent me that my services were no longer wanted on government work. So I took the hint and came down. Now I consider that a very mean, dirty way of telling a man to "Get out; you voted for Brown." No one but a small-minded person would do so. The acting Government Agent refuses to divulge the name of the party; so I must lay the belame on Mr. Kellie, as he is the one most interested. I don't mind the few days' work that I lose, but it is the way it was done, for giving an old friend a lift.

Mr. Kellie is, and has been, virtually superintendent of trails for the past two years. Mr. Ross works according to instructions; he would not do one such a mean turn. The Davie Government have established a very bad precedent in allowing our member to manipulate the appropriations for the district. It is not done in any other part of B. C. that I am aware of; if it is it should be stopped, or it will make trouble. Self-interest influences Mr. Kellie in distributing these funds. Mr. Brown got many a stab in the back all owing to the expenditure on trails before election day.

Monuments of his folly can be seen on Fish Creek mountain and Lardeau City. He has evidently left that part of the district for new fields, and is now digging pot holes somewhere up Carne's Creek. He has never been to the Big Bend to see what the miners there required, simply because he is not interested. A bridge is much needed across Gold Stream at Laforme's ferry, and another at the mouth of Gold Stream to Smith Creek; and I venture to say he does not know where those places are. But a bridge was built across French Creek to the Consolation mine where a big log did duty for years—all done to influence votes. I must say the Davie Government have been very liberal with their money this year, which I sincerely hope they will continue to be in the future. But I consider them a little extravagant in having two superintendents for trails. I would like to know how much salary Mr. Kellie gets. Mr. Ross should be the one to look after all work. It would be done better and be more satisfactory to all parts of the district.

The miners of North Kootenay will have to put up with Kellie rule for another four years. However, there will a day come when he will get balled out. I will endeavor to be around then, to put a nail in his coffin.—Yours truly,

WM. MCKENZIE.

Revelstoke, August 10, 1894.

A CORRECTION.

In a communication published in last week's MAIL re smelters, from A. H. Holdich, the word "assayers," in the tenth line from the bottom should read "managers."—ED.

The Vancouver Murder.

The Squamish Indian, Charley, *alias* Alec, arrested on suspicion of having murdered James McRorie, at Vancouver, last Sunday, has confessed that he killed deceased with an axe, which he found under the bed on which McRorie was sleeping. Charley said he was very drunk, having consumed a bottle of whiskey on his way from the North Arm cannery to Vancouver. The man who supplied the Indian with the whiskey, William Kay, has been apprehended.

The Oriental War.

Both China and Japan will Respect the Treaty Ports.—Li Hung Chang still without his Yellow Jacket.—New Cruisers for the Japs.—$3,500,000 Indemnity for the Kow Chung affair.—Great Britain Neutral.

If it is true that the Siamese have sold to the Chinese 60,000 muskets at the modest price of 4½d. apiece, the news will be received with no little satisfaction in Japan. These venerable weapons, now more than half a century old, would do much greater damage to the men who stood behind them than to those who faced them. It seems, however, that the Bangkok Government has very intelligently disposed of this lumber in order that it may fall into the hands of the Chinese pirates infesting their frontiers. The transaction, however, is quite in accordance with the methods of the far East. Some years ago the Chinese had a good deal of trouble with the so-called savages in North Formosa. The rebel chiefs sent a message to the commanding officer of the imperial forces stating that their ammunition was exhausted, and unless he would sell them supplies the struggle must come to an end. The polite and business-like Chinaman promptly listened to the appeal, and generously furnished his adversaries with the sinews of war at a remunerative figure.—*Pall Mall Gazette.*

Sir Edward Grey, under secretary of the foreign office, says that Japan had promised not to attack Shanghai, and China thereupon pledged herself not to obstruct the approaches to that port. In response to another question Sir Edward said he did not know at present whether or not coal would be contraband of war.

The Shanghai correspondent of the *Times* telegraphs: "Li Hung Chang expects that England will claim compensation for the relatives of the Kow Chung victims and for the owners of the vessel and cargo. He estimates the indemnity due China for the sinking of the Kow Chung at $3,500,000."

A despatch to the Central News from Tientsin says: "Li Hung Chang continues to direct the war preparations of the Chinese. To-day he reviewed the newly arrived troops. The absence of his yellow jacket was the subject of much remark."

Two fast vessels left England on Saturday flying the Spanish flag. Another will follow in a few days. These three vessels are partly fitted out as cruisers, and will be transferred on the high seas to the Japanese government. All munitions of war now loading for both China and Japan clear under Spanish or Portuguese flags.

The British dispatch boat Alacrity has taken Capt. Glasworthy with companions on board. They had been held as prisoners at Sasebo, but upon the demand of the British authorities for their release were surrendered.

In Japan, it is said, there has always existed a great deal of bad feeling with China. It might be by weight of numbers the latter would wear the the Japanese out, but the latter are splendid fighters, well equipped and well armed with a rifle invented by the Japanese, as good as that used in the European armies. The ironclads are well manned and armed, and some of the vessels were built by the great Armstrong works. They have a regular force of 100,000 men, which could be readily doubled.

The Japanese ambassador in London has received the following despatch from Tokio:—"General Oshima, commander of the troops in Corea, reports that after severe fighting from 3 to 8 a.m., on July 29, he won a decisive victory over the Chinese army entrenched at Kashan. Every entrenchment was taken, and more than 500 out of the 2,800 Chinese troops were killed and wounded. Our casualties were five officers and 70 men killed and wounded. The enemy disappeared and fled toward the Hong Chow, intending, perhaps, to avail themselves of the Corean boats. In the vicinity of Gensan our troops captured many flags, much ammunition and four guns. Gen. Oshima eventually established his headquarters at Kashan."

The French fleet in the east has been ordered to the seat of war.

The Japanese legation at Washington has received an official detailed report of the sinking of the Chinese transport, which shows that the Japanese acted only after the Chinese man-of-war, Chi Yuen, displayed a white flag above the Japanese ensign, which constitutes a most unpardonable insult in naval warfare.

The London official *Gazette* contains a proclamation notifying British subjects of the existence of war between China and Japan, and declaring Great Britain's neutrality. Lord Kimberley, secretary for foreign affairs, has addressed a letter to the various government offices, detailing the neutrality rules that are to be observed. These rules become operative in the United Kingdom on August 12, and in the colonies and other British possessions a week after they have been published in the local papers.

A Yokohama dispatch says that the Chinese have been defeated by the Japanese at Seikman, with a loss of 500 killed and many wounded. The Chinese fled towards Koshiu. The Japanese loss is trifling. The occupation of Yashan by the Japanese is confirmed. There is much excitement at Yokohama over the recent victories of the Japanese. At Tokio the excitement is intense and feeling is running high. Chinese will be permitted to reside in Japan provided they do not participate in any warlike movement. Officials of the Japanese legation in London think the despatch from Yokohama reporting the capture of Seikman, refers to the battle of July 29th.

China insists upon retaining her suzerainty rights over Korea. She was willing to negotiate with reference to reforms, but since the sinking of the Kow Shung a settlement is considered improbable.

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE.

In the Matter of the Estate of James McTavish (Deceased).

NOTICE is hereby given that all persons having any claim against the estate of James McTavish, late of Revelstoke, West Kootenay, in the Province of British Columbia, carpenter, deceased, who died on or about the tenth day of June, 1894, are hereby required on or before the tenth day of October, 1894, to send by post prepaid to the undersigned, John McTavish, administrator of the said estate, the full particulars of their claims, a statement of their accounts and the nature of the securities (if any) held by them.

After the said tenth day of October, 1894, the said administrator will proceed to distribute the assets of the said estate among the parties entitled thereto, having regard only to the claims of which notice shall then have been received.

Dated this 8th day of August, 1894.

JOHN MCTAVISH,
Meade post office, Michigan, U.S.A.
Administrator.

THINGS SAID AND DONE ABOUT TOWN.

[BY DIOGENES.]

The present year has been one of intense anxiety to the dwellers in this portion of the province. The fall of snow last winter was exceptional. The heat in the spring and early summer was exceptional, and as a consequence the rise of the river and tributary streams was exceptional. After the devastation caused by the floods had been somewhat ameliorated, the drouth began to get in its work. Bush fires started up in various parts of the surrounding timber, and as the heat and dryness continued great danger arose, from the tinder-like condition of fallen logs and underbrush, of the whole town being swept away whenever the wind blew towards the town, as there was fire in the bush on all sides but the river. On two or three occasions the fire has been so threatening that people began to prepare to pack their belongings previous to quitting their place of abode, which, for all they knew, might be a heap of ashes within an hour; fortunately, though, when some had almost given up hoping, the wind had changed and carried the army of fire-fiends in another direction. Good luck alone saved the town.

* * *

Now, if our citizens do not take a lesson to themselves from the recent experiences, why all I can say is that we are no better than a community of fools. What are the lessons we should apply in this case? Well, first of all our fire-wardens should not confine their attention to stovepipes alone, but should see that every householder kept his premises in such a condition that in case of an outbreak of fire there would be no difficulty in getting at it. There is a house on Front street, belonging to Mr. John Cranston, which is a certain fire-trap. The rear portion of the building fell in long ago, and the timbers have been allowed to stand in the position in which they fell, piled loosely and in exactly the manner that one would take to build a bonfire. A spark dropped anywhere in this pile would start a conflagration that would be difficult to extinguish at such a time as this.

* * *

Another dangerous feature is the immense mass of rotting cedar logs and stumps which have been allowed to lie, ever since the town has had an existence, on lots back of the main streets. There are tons of this rubbish—now dry as matchwood—lying close to buildings in the rear of Front street. Ancient trees stretch their length along the ground just as they fell years ago, added to which are the accumulations of all those years, in the shape of old planks, withered branches, empty barrels, etc., etc. All this the fire-wardens should take upon themselves to look after and order its removal. In a town like this, these accumulations of combustible matter offer the greatest menace to the safety of the buildings.

* * *

Another source of danger from fire is the blocking of most of the alleys by fences and buildings. Should an outbreak occur in the rear, as it most usually does, the building would be consumed long before these obstructions could be removed. It is absolutely necessary in a well-ordered town that all streets and lanes should be kept open and free for the passage of vehicles. It seems the height of folly to spend money on a fire engine, and allow the town to drag along in the condition it was in its primitive days. Make it compulsory for every owner to clean up his lot, whether he has a building on it or not. Let the alleys be cleared and no more buildings allowed in the streets. We shall not then be so much at the mercy of bush fires, and the engine can be taken to the spot before the fire has got beyond control, in case the outbreak occurs in the rear.

* * *

The greatest of all danger from bush fires is the fact that so much of the townsite is overgrown with brushwood. Speculators who bought lots with the intention of holding them for a rise, are the greatest offenders in this respect. Our own member in the Dominion House is, I am sorry to say, one of those who holds several uncleared lots here. Another gentleman lately connected with the smelter has 16 lots in the town, several of them with a fine growth of trees and bushes still on them. Of course, not being a municipality, no power rests with the town to compel these people to clear off their lots, but the safety of the whole demands that these few should do something to lessen the danger that arises every summer. Let them employ a few men to cut down the brush. The expense would not be very great, and the increase in the value of their property would more than repay the outlay. I hope the fire-wardens will not let this matter sleep.

* * *

When did the health officer for the district make his last inspection? There are many crying nuisances in the town, many loud-smelling closets, and not a few piggeries which repel the olfactory nerves even a considerable distance away. Fortunately we have been free from fevers and kindred diseases during the hot days we have passed through, but it does not follow that we shall continue to have a similar immunity from epidemics all through the summer and fall.

(Continued on page 5.)

W. COWAN,

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WHOLESALE AND RETAIL

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ALL ORDERS IN OUR LINE WILL BE PROMPTLY ATTENDED TO.

THOSE WHO USED

TANGLEFOOT FLY PAPER

For the Fly Pest last year will be glad to learn that it can be Procured again this Season at

THE REVELSTOKE PHARMACY.

THE SEASON FOR

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Is again at hand. 25 cts. makes 5 gallons.

NEW STOCK OF PERFUMES, SOAPS, TOOTH AND HAIR BRUSHES, ETC.

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FRUITS, and VEGETABLES of all kinds.

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YOUR CUSTOM SOLICITED.

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EVANSPORT.

The natural terminus of the wagon road about to be constructed from Arrow Lake to Trout Lake City, thereby tapping the famous Lardeau mining district.

BUY EVANSPORT LOTS, because they are for sale at such moderate prices that when the rise in their value (which must come) takes place, the profit on your investment will be proportionately great.

BUY NOW, because it is not intended to offer these Lots at their present low price for long, and you may as well benefit by the rise in prices.

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Trout Lake City

MUST go ahead! - - Why?

BECAUSE it is the metropolis of a district whose mines, besides being fabulously rich in Silver, carry a larger percentage of GOLD than any silver-lead mines on the American continent.

BECAUSE nearly all the mines are within a 12-mile radius of the townsite, and the routes to them all converge in Trout Lake City.

BECAUSE during last winter several of the Lardeau mines were being steadily developed in spite of the slump in silver, and large quantities of GOLD were taken out of Lardeau Creek within the limits of the townsite.

Price of Lots—Corners, $150; Insides, $100.

APPLY TO H. ASHBY & Co., Kaslo, or

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