



**The Kootenay Mail**  
 PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY  
 AT  
**REVELSTOKE, B.C.**  
 BY  
**ATKINS & SMITH,**  
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REVELSTOKE, JULY 31, 1917.

The Opposition Party of B.C.—for that is all the title they can claim—have a peculiar way of doing things. But a little while ago they met in caucus in Vancouver to formulate a policy and covered all their actions with a mantle of secrecy. Weighty subjects, said an organ of the party, were discussed and decisions come to, but as far as the public knew the matter argued might have been the weight of the earth.

The result of their secret session appeared last week in the shape of a platform, but the public knows it not and people come and go as if it were not. It has not occasioned, as far as can be learned, any commotion in the camp of their enemies or any extraordinary enthusiasm in the ranks of their friends. The reason, doubtless, is because they as a party have seemingly no sense of the fitness of things. Why, if they were going to appeal to the people with a policy, did they not take them into their confidence at once? Why did they not advertise their meeting, invite the press and the public supporting them, and then, after thorough discussion, propound their policy when the country would be all alert and expectant? They do nothing like this, however. They prefer to meet in secret and, when the little attention their gathering excited has all subsided, they bring forth their policy. Pshaw! Save us from our friends.

The political situation in this province is exceedingly serious and the Opposition party, as a party, do not evidently by their hole-and-corner method, at all appreciate it. Instead of secret meetings, the country wants a convention and thorough discussion of affairs. The people want a positive platform at the making of which they will assist, and they want to have a voice in determining the lines on which the coming elections will be run.

That the strength of the Government is the weakness of the Opposition has passed into a proverb in this province and it is again exemplified in this latest exhibition. If it is to be the Opposition vs. the Government again, the latter may remain in power. This is the people's opportunity to break up the present political parties and to put men in power responsible and trustworthy.

The new Turner organ at Kamloops, the Standard, has appeared. Its first issue says that Kamloops' chief industry is beer. Until the Standard said otherwise it was imagined by us that its chief industry was politics. We were not far astray.

The Hon. G. B. Martin is reported as denying the glory of building the Dewdney trail to the Lieutenant-Governor. It is a comforting thought that our Edgar cannot have filched from him the honor of laying the corner stone of Mrs. Allan's hotel. Honor to whom honor is due.

A writer in the Nelson Economist tries to heap ridicule on Hewitt Boslock, M.P., because of his wearing spectacles. A paper with such a title is expected to pry into details and the public may count on hearing further interesting particulars of the wardrobe of the member for Yale-Cariboo. One part of his apparel we will vouch for when he reads the Economist's reference to him—he will wear a smile.

Our local contemporary would now like to see the country run "not in the interests of cliques, charter-mongers, schemers and monopolists but for the hard-working masses." This way our contemporary has travelled to reach this conclusion cannot exactly be described as a straight and narrow way (more like what the dog said of his hind leg, "Oh, but you're crooked"). Nevertheless its decision may be forgiven if it will now the people's rights maintain sufficiently long to know where it is at.

**The Copper Supply.**  
 Electricity without copper would be somewhat like astronomy without telescopes, says Machinery, but whilst everyone reads with avidity news of gold discoveries, who troubles about

copper? At this moment the copper miners of the world are working hardest to keep pace with the enormous demand for electrical purposes, and the stock of metal is lower than it has been for many years. It is possible that in a few years time the earth will be searched as diligently for copper as it is for gold, as the demand goes on increasing and must continue to do so with electricity still in its infancy. With demands increasing and stock decreasing, the natural conclusion of the business man would be that we should see a rise in the value of the metal, but the obliging bears have been good enough to depress prices for reasons of their own, and consumers are thankful. Less than two years ago there were 40,472 tons whereas, by the latest figures, the available stock is only 18,597 tons, while the price has recently fallen about \$5 a ton. Whether we may expect a copper famine or whether the operators, notwithstanding the lowness of the stocks, are keeping down the price with the view to a big "corner" later on, we cannot say, but it would be well for consumers not to run short of supplies. —Mining and Electrical Review.

**Pilot Bay Smelter Sold.**  
 The Braden Syndicate, of the Omaha smelter, are reported to have purchased the Pilot Bay smelting plant and the famous Blue Bell mine. The new proprietors intend to operate both the smelter and mine and will supply Blue Bell ores with others of different sections of the country. The present capacity of the smelter is 100 tons a day, but the fuel will be shipped from Vancouver Island and the output will go by the C. P. R.

The old smelter was built in 1891 and cost a lot of money to erect. Hendryx, the principal owner in it, is reported to have lost about \$100,000 there and the plant and property was heavily mortgaged to the Bank of Montreal.

**Commencing Soon.**  
 District freight agent, F. W. Peters, of the C. P. R., is reported to have received definite information from W. E. Ostrander, of the Colorado Ore Sampling Works to the effect that the construction of an ore sampler at Nakusp will be commenced without further delay. This is good news for Nakusp as a more convenient site for a sampler it would be hard to find.

**A Great Record.**  
 The most extravagantly humorous statement possibly ever uttered by the Colonist is the following: "The Colonist has masters, but they comprise the general public, in whose interests it is generally acknowledged this paper has always fought, and with good results." When it is remembered that the Colonist has been the champion of every monopolist in British Columbia, the defender of every land-grabber and the advocate of every ring of speculators that ever asked for a franchise of any kind during the last dozen years, the deep, hidden humor of the Colonist writer will be appreciated as it ought to be. —Victoria Times.

**Alive to the Matter.**  
 Last Saturday evening Collector of Customs Milne, of Victoria, received instructions from Ottawa to appoint three new officers to guard the trade routes into the Kootenay. They will see that no American goods go in without paying the regular duty of about 33 per cent. This action will help to throw all the trade of the Canadian Yukon district to Vancouver and Victoria. The force of mounted police already there are to be largely augmented and every precaution will be taken to ensure law and order.

**The Silver Slump.**  
 Discussing the big drop in the price of silver bullion last week, the New York Herald says: "Buy silver at the lowest price for two years, and private dispatches from abroad received at Wall Street are to the effect that holders of the white metal have weakened. Some bullion brokers assume this means the silver pool, which was formed abroad more than a year ago, is liquidating its holdings." Outsiders generally have called attention to the fact that the recession in price came simultaneously with the announcement of the great gold discoveries in the Kootenay region.

**NOTICE**  
 Edinburgh Mineral Claims, situated in the Elizabeth Mining Division of West Kootenay District, Where located: A northerly extension upon the Elizabeth mineral claim, which bears...

**NOTICE**  
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**NOTICE**  
 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that I, the undersigned, C. H. Temple, intend sixty days after date to make application to the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works for permission to purchase one hundred and sixty acres of land situated about six and a half miles from the mouth of Carpe's Creek, on the north fork of said creek, in West Kootenay District, commencing at a post marked "Tangle Post," H. Temple's Survey, higher running forty chains north, the new forty chains east, thence forty chains south, thence forty chains west to place of commencement. C. H. TEMPLE, June 26th, 1917.

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 The regular meetings are held in the Music Temple, on the third Monday in each month at 8 p. m. Visiting brethren cordially welcomed.  
 H. R. SMYTHE, Secretary.

**REVELSTOKE LODGE, I. O. O. F. No. 25.**  
 Regular meetings are held in Oddfellows' Hall every Thursday night at eight o'clock. Visiting brethren cordially welcomed.  
 J. A. STONE, N.G. T. J. GRAHAM, Sec.

**Loyal Orange Lodge No. 1058.**  
 Regular meetings are held in the Odd Fellows' Hall on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p. m. Visiting brethren are cordially invited.  
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**BORN.**  
 McMAHON.—At Revelstoke, Wednesday, July 28th, the wife of Samuel McMahon of a son.

**DIED.**  
 Hous.—At Revelstoke, Saturday, July 28th, Eva, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. E. Hous, aged 2 years.

**LOCAL AND PERSONAL BRIEFS**

P. Leake returned yesterday.  
 Mason & Twombly got in yesterday.  
 Charlie Dent was out driving this week.  
 Toothache was very prevalent this week.  
 Gus Lund came in from Ground Hog, Thursday.  
 J. D. Graham went into Trout Lake on Wednesday.  
 Rev. F. A. Ford has returned from Vancouver.  
 The frame of the new Court House can now be seen from Front Street.  
 Work on Cowan's new block started this week. C. B. McLean is in charge.  
 People are glad to see Charlie Skene about again. He had a serious pull for it.  
 Tom Down's residence is steadily progressing and looks splendid. C. B. McLean designed it.  
 W. R. Page, the big hearty constable at Trout Lake was in town for a few days this week.

The demand for lumber at the saw-mill is not quite as brisk as it was but is still great.

The second game of ball between Kamloops and Gold Hills, of Revelstoke, resulted in a win for Kamloops.

Quite a number of townspeople went out on horseback to the canyon near town on Sunday. They cut quite a caper.

Judge Porin was here this week and held County Court. There was no notice of the sitting given as far as can be learned.

Charlie, Mrs. Abrahamson and the boys left yesterday for a visit of four or five days to Trout Lake City. They will no doubt enjoy themselves.

T. E. L. Taylor arrived Tuesday from Vancouver. Mr. Taylor will make this his future home and intends to grow up with it. Glad to have you, old man.

W. H. Vickers came up Monday, to try his examination for a Notary Public. He passed successfully, we are glad to say, and his name will be gazetted shortly. You forgot to come in with the cigars William.

The band concert and dance in Tip-ping's Hall on Wednesday night was very enjoyable but was not as well attended as it deserved. The band played excellently and the dancing was fair. The band deserves more encouragement. It netted about \$35.

**200 MEN WANTED.**

About 200 choppers and laborers wanted at Albert Canyon. Apply to JOHN ROSS, Contractor, Albert Canyon, B.C.

**Lake View At-Home.**

MR. AND MRS. J. J. FOLEY desire to inform their friends that they will be at home at their new, hot-lake view at Arrowhead, on Tuesday evening next, Aug. 3, 1910.



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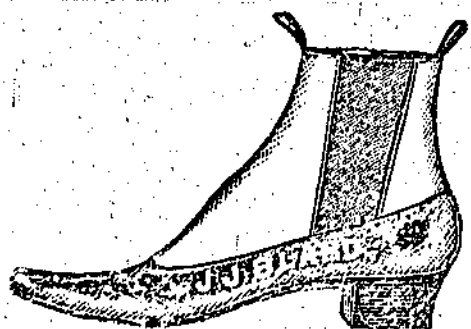
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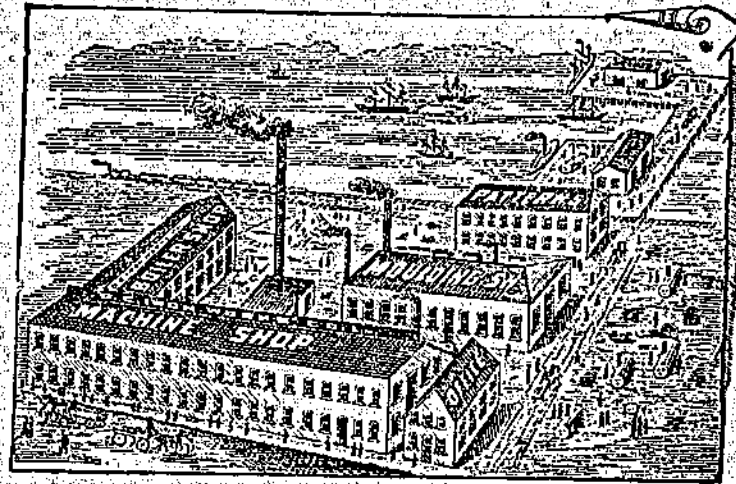
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