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THE NELSON ECONOMIST.

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EDITORIAL COMMENT.

Last week we published a special telegram from Victoria to the effect that by an amendment to the Redistribution Bill, moved by the Hon. Mr. Eberts, Kootenay is given another member. This was what might have been expected, as the government have all along shown a willingness to treat this section of the province liberally. All that now remains is to see that the proper men are selected in the various constituencies—men who have the ability, energy and honesty to carry out the work entrusted to them. The session now drawing to a close will be remembered as one of obstruction and opposition to the best interests of the province. Honest opposition is commendable, but when it comes to opposing for opposition sake it becomes worse than useless. The government were anxious from the very beginning of the session to get through the necessary work as expeditiously as was consistent with efficiency, and then confidently appeal to the people for an endorsation of their acts. They are in a position to render a good account of their stewardship, and have nothing to conceal, nothing to be afraid of. The members of the Opposition on the other hand, have nothing creditable to show during their term of office: the result of their efforts may be summed up in the two brief words obstruction and failure. They assailed the government on every available occasion, obstructed business and demonstrated their own utter incapacity for public usefulness. Under ordinary circumstances, the man who honestly thinks he has discovered a fault, is able to suggest a remedy, and if there be any ability in him he can apply that remedy. Legislatures assemble for the public good, and it is but reasonable to expect that there must be differences of opinion as to how best to attain the objects in view. The government, in this instance, have taken a very broad view of the country's importance and have, wisely we think, endeavored to make provision for that rapid development which is every day becoming more conspicuous. With the courage of their convictions, they have paved the way to prosperity, and if in so doing there is a trifling balance on the wrong side of the public ledger the assets are greater than ever, and the credit of the country stands higher than at any previous period in her history. On the other hand, the Opposition take a very narrow view of the position and display a timidity born of incompetence. Their forte seems to be to knock down, rather than build up. They denounce the every action of Premier Turner and his followers, but yet they do not attempt to suggest a course which would be attended with better results. It is easy to find fault: any person can do that. But if there was any statesmanship among the members of the Opposition they would point out a better course and demonstrate that had it been followed, better results would be attained. This they fail to do—the task is too much for them. Yet these are the men who cry: "Turn the government out and put us in charge. You don't know what we can accomplish until you try us." No, gentlemen, you have been tried and found wanting. You have no policy, no leader, no confidence one in the other, and those who cannot depend on themselves are poor material for others to depend on. It is unfortunate for the Opposition that they have prolonged the session by their sheer obstruction. Had the business been allowed to progress, they might have shared in the credit for the good work accomplished, but as it is, they can only lay claim to want of tact and will be voted a want of confidence on polling day.

Superstition is an element in human composition. Deny the fact as we may, we have all our little superstitions. We have all met the man who would not under any conditions contemplate an important business change on a Friday. Then there is the tradition "handed down from ancient history"—"Never take the horseshoe from the door." And men who will laugh at the horseshoe arrangement will sometimes confess that they feel uncomfortable should they happen to be one of a party of thirteen at a dinner table—it has not an appetising effect, you know. A friend of ours, in all other respects a sensible man, believed it an ill omen if the first lady he encountered on his way to business had hair of a reddish hue, and positively changed his residence because a neighbour of his was a young lady who claimed to have auburn tresses, and who went to business about the same time in the morning as he did. The dreamer of dreams who believes in a well defined code for the interpretation thereof is to be found in every community, as is also he who will flip up a coin and upon the turn of "heads" or "tails" decide a doubtful point. Everyone is more or less given to superstition, although the point is conceded with reluctance when conceded at all. The multitude with whom fortune telling finds favor has called into existence a numerous class who live upon the credulity of the superstitious. The fortune teller is a very accommodating individual, who for a monetary consideration will undertake to uplift the veil which hides the future, draw aside the curtain that drapes the past, or make the very present clear. The occult or crafty science is so generally recognized that its professors unblushingly advertize themselves, and are permitted to practise in most communities on payment of a license fee. Scan the advertisements in your daily paper, and note the number of these people in active business. There is scarcely an exchange on our list in which they are not advertised. Some of them profess to read your fortune by the art of palmistry; others will cast your horoscope and give you a lot of information founded on the position of the heavenly bodies on the date of your birth; many will shuffle a pack of cards for your especial benefit (and their own) and read mysterious things in the face of the queen of clubs, the jack of diamonds and the other picture cards, explaining their connection with the ace of hearts (invariably a love affair) or the single diamond spot (which is a token of wealth), and mix up fair-haired women and dark-complexioned gentry until their story meets your case. Others will oblige you by going into a trance, and in this condition will commune with departed spirits in your best interests. We observe that the police of Winnipeg have ordered McIvor-Tyndall to discontinue fortune-telling. The "professor's" forte is palmistry. The order is based on clause 396 of the Criminal Code, which says: "Everyone is guilty of an indictable offence and liable to one year's imprisonment who pretends to exercise or use any kind of witchcraft, secrecy, enchantment or conjuration, or undertakes to tell fortunes or pretends from his skill or knowledge in any occult or crafty science to discover where or in what manner any goods or chattels supposed to have been stolen or lost may be found." A similar case was successfully

prosecuted recently at Toronto. We hope our local police will bear this point in view should Nelson be again visited by any of these over-accommodating characters.

Mr. James McMullen, member for the North Riding of Wellington, has prepared a very interesting table setting forth the cost of customs collections at several Canadian ports of entry, which go to show that this branch of the public service in the East is not run very economically, while in the West the greatest penury is exercised in dealing with custom houses and officials. Brantford custom house has five employes to collect $130,900 of duty, the percentage of expense to collections being 2.60; Brockville has nine men to collect $109,453, at a cost of 4.74 per cent; Fort Erie 19 to collect $217,413 at 3.32 cost of collection; Hamilton 40 to collect $555,144 at 5.08 per cent. of cost; London 20, collecting $448,155 for 3.18 per cent.; Ottawa 25 collecting $334,826 at 5.21 per cent.; St. Thomas seven men, collecting $114,678 for 3.60 per cent.; Sarnia 13, collecting $118,947 for 7.94 per cent.; Toronto 94, collecting $3,623,420 for 1.96 per cent.: Windsor 21, collecting $192,289 for 7.12 per cent. At some of the smaller ports the percentage of cost is very high. Cobourg has eight men collecting $6,876 at a cost of $4,029, or 58.57 per cent.; Amherstburg 12 men collecting $13,828 at a cost of 34.02 per cent., etc.

A letter received from Mayor Houston, now in Ottawa as a delegate from this city to urge upon the government the advisability of imposing an import duty on lead and lead products, conveys the impression that there is little hope of accomplishing the object in view. The authorities at the provincial capital do not seem disposed to make any serious change in the tariff as now in operation, nor yet to deal more liberally and justly with British Columbia in the matter of public works or public buildings. Very staunch Liberals were disposed to the belief that all that was necessary to secure a suitable custom house for Nelson was to call attention to the utter unfitness of the present building. Nothing further should be needed—but then, British Columbia is only British Columbia, and Nelson is only Nelson, while the Liberal government is an ill-Liberal government.

Federal party lines are not those on which the approaching provincial elections are to be fought, although the Opposition are endeavoring to create that impression. There is nothing in common between federal politics and provincial politics, as the term is understood in this province, and there is consequently no reason why the issue should be complicated by mixing them. In their desperate straits the Opposition are driven to extremities, and think it would strengthen their cause if they could go before the electors and declare "The whole country is Liberal, and so are we. The Conservatives were put out of power by the voice of Canada, and the Conservatives must go in British Columbia." This is a little scheme out of which capital might be made, if it could be only worked. Since the days of confederation party lines, as elsewhere defined, have not been drawn in this province; it has simply been the "ins" and the "outs"—the "Government" and the "Opposition." The terms Liberal and Conservative have never been applied, and there is no reason why they should be now introduced. The members of the present Opposition would try to convince themselves and the country that they are Liberals—a very poor compliment, indeed, to that great political party. The government do not wish to draw any such distinctions, but are prepared to stand or fall on their merits, as the following letter from Premier Turner to the chairman of the Provincial Political Association will show:

"My Dear McLennan—I understand that it is being freely circulated that Dominion party politics are to be introduced in the coming provincial elections and that voters will be asked to vote as Liberals or Conservatives, and not as supporters of the present government. I desire, on behalf of the Government, to make a distinct statement on this point. There is no desire on our part to introduce Dominion party politics in any way in the coming contest. Our views are that Dominion and Provincial politics are entirely distinct and should be kept wholly separate. It is therefore requested that voters, whether Liberal or Conservative, should support or oppose the present government as British Columbians, and from no other consideration. As a government, we have never taken any part or expressed any views which could be construed as identifying us with either one party or the other."

Our friends at the Coast are very naturally indignant at the action of the dominion government in entering into an arrangement with the Boston & Alaskan Co. to deliver 400 tons of freight, comprising stores for the mounted police, into the Yukon. It is estimated that this contract represents something like $80,000 and this snug little sum goes to Seattle merchants instead of being handled by the business men of Vancouver and Victoria. There is no reason assigned for this extraordinary proceeding, and the damage it is calculated to do to the province is very great. If the dominion government is forced to entrust its business to American carriers (and this will be the impression left) our friends at the other side of the border will be supplied with a powerful argument in favor of securing the Yukon trade. A matter involving such serious consequences is bound to be ventilated on the floor of the Dominion House, and we shall await with interest an explanation. Is it a huge mistake, or is it to be accepted as the policy of the federal government that the best means of promoting the interests of this country is to give its trade over to our neighbors to the south of us?

Once again the rumor is circulated that the Le Roi has been sold, this time to the British America Corporation. It looks as if the deal really has been made. The corporation, it will be remembered, tried to secure this property before, but the owners held out for $5,000,000, which was considered rather a stiff price—so stiff that it was deemed advisable to let the anxious vendors cool down. If report speak true, they have cooled down, to the extent of $2,000,000. The property is now turned over for $3,000,000, and at this figure many hold it to be no great bargain. What effect the sale of the property will have upon this country remains to be seen. Of one thing we may be certain, that the country will lose nothing by the change. The Le Roi has one of the largest payrolls of any mine in the Kootenays, but for all the benefit it has been to the country it might as well be in South Africa. It is owned by Americans, worked by Americans, and its ores are sent to an American smelter for treatment. We recently published an extract from the Rossland Miner, which went to show that the only benefit the big mine is to that camp is the few dollars spent by its employes in the city barrooms. This statement is borne out by the Spokesman-Review. The latter paper attributes to a leading business man of Spokane the statement that "from Spokane's point of view, I should regret the sale of this great mine. It has paid to date $825,000 in dividends, and fully four-fifths of that money has been spent right here in Spokane. But that is only a part of the advantage Spokane has derived from the ownership of the Le Roi by Spokane men. They have been loyal to their home city, and have spent enormous sums here for supplies of all kinds." From a British Columbian point of view, we hope the big property has passed into the hands of the B. A. C. The "enormous sums" spent for supplies, as well as a goodly portion of the dividends, may be kept in this country, and probably the smelting of the Le Roi ore will also be done at home, instead of sending it to Northport or other American smelters. Let us try and encourage home industry. A smelter at Rossland, or a much larger one at Trail, Robson or other point, will do more to build up British Columbia than the smelter at Northport.

It can't, says the Nation, be said of Her Majesty's loyal Opposition in British Columbia, as it is sung of Tommy Akins, that they are a credit to their native land. Their tactics this season would disgrace a school-boy debating society. With all their claptrap about the expensive delay and waste of time, they never seem to take the fact home to themselves that they are the principal parties to blame. Since they got a little snap vote on the twopenny halfpenny questions of adjourning the House for ten minutes, they have been shaking hands with themselves, and are actually rising to the belief that they are a real political party. It is nice to see some people hug delusions.

The Kamloops Standard says the Opposition is showing its true colors in North Yale, and continues: "The fight against the Government candidate, Hon. G. B. Martin, is entirely one of slander and abuse. Those who in this constituency represent the 'types of our best life' are careful not to publish anything that can be contradicted in set terms; but there is a veritable mud shower of cowardly, sneaking

innuendoes. Mr. Martin, on his part, is meeting the attack with dignity and temper—proving, out of the mouths of his enemies, as it were, his fitness for the responsible position which he holds."

The order to squatters to clear off the line of streets and alleys has been very liberally enforced, with the result that the outer sections of the city now present somewhat of a decent appearance. In several cases the owners of shacks simply abandoned them, and these have had to be cleared away. In other cases where the buildings were worth removing the owners had them shifted, but left piles of rubbish behind as memorials. The Chief of Police, who acts as sanitary officer, has ordered such parties to clear this rubbish, and has made a complete inspection of the city, with the view of enforcing a much-needed spring cleaning. This inspection has revealed a bad condition of affairs—in Chinese quarters particularly. A few Chinamen who run a laundry and vegetable garden at the entrance to the park grounds near Hendryx street were among the squatters obliged to move, and as soon as the timbers which formed their dirty shack were taken away a horrible state of things was revealed. The shack was built over a pit, into which they were accustomed to empty their wash house slops and all other refuse matter. The boarding over this pit was the floor of the place in which the washing and ironing was done and the vegetables sorted out to be sold throughout the city. How far this establishment has been responsible for the occasional outbreaks of disease in Nelson it is difficult to say, but people partaking of the vegetables sorted in so foul an atmosphere, and wearing the underclothing dried, folded and otherwise treated on the premises have run big risks. The sanitary officer ordered the cesspool to be filled up, and has taken the necessary precautions to prevent a repetition of the convenient but unsanitary provision in John's new quarters. It is most essential at this season that the sanitary laws be enforced, and that the chief offenders—the ever-present Chinamen—should be very closely watched. Why people will persist in patronizing this class of unsanitary creatures, and rendering their existence in the community possible, can only be accounted for by the fact that they do not know the danger they are incurring. The Chinese shack is like the whited sepulchre, and danger ever lurks where the pigtails are to be found. Externally they may be presentable, but their hovels and surroundings are always a source of evil to the community.

War news continues to occupy nearly all the space in the newspapers, and having waded through a few columns of the stuff sent over the wires by special correspondents and commissioners, one is inclined to long for a return to the good old days when facts were given, and fancies avoided. Commodore Dewey no doubt achieved a great victory over the Spaniards at Cavite. This seems to be an established fact, but the minute details which the imaginative correspondents and commissioners supply the American press, and which are duly forwarded to this country, are positively sickening in their fulsomness. For four hours the gallant commodore engaged the Spanish fortresses and eleven of the enemy's battle ships, and a hot time he must have had. Yet we are told that "not an American life was lost, and not an American ship was injured. A few men were slightly injured, but that is often the case when vessels indulge in target practice." Then we are treated to a long dissertation on the "superior gunnery, target practice, coolness and preparedness" which were the factors that "won the day in such an astounding fashion." This is the news said to have been brought by the despatch boat McCulloch. Another account is that the battle of Manila lasted but two hours, and resulted in "the destruction of the entire Spanish fleet" This speedy work is accounted for by the fact that Commodore Dewey "had run the batteries at night undiscovered, and at daybreak was pouring broadside after broadside into the Spanish fleet, which was taken unawares, with nobody at quarters, with most of the crews asleep." Such is the war news of the past few days—1 per cent. truth and 99 per cent. downright falsehood. The one fact remains that there was a naval engagement, and that the Spaniards got the worst of it.

W. W. B. McInnes is said to have resigned his seat in the dominion parliament to enter provincial politics in British Columbia. The rumor that he will be offered a portfolio is denied by the Hon. Mr. Turner. It is also claimed that Fighting Joe Martin will seek a place in the provincial legislature.

Some of the most recent experiments in wireless telegraphy have been made by Professor Slaby, who has been able to send intelligible Morse signals 13¼ miles, using two balloons filled with hydrogen to elevate the end conductors, 1,000 feet in the air. In this way he was able to transmit signals seventy times the length of his base line. Professor S. P. Thompson, who spoke of these experiments before a British society, stated that in his opinion it was possible to develop the conduction or the induction methods of wireless telegraphy so as to communicate between England and India at far less cost than would be necessary with the employment of submarine cables, but he was doubtful whether the wave method would be found practicable in such a case, as the curvature of the earth would interfere with the propagation of the electric waves.

Science has achieved much during the past decade, and many of her achievements have resulted in relegating to the background what was once considered indispensable. The introduction of the X-rays now threatens to supersede the prospector in locating mineral lodes underground. Tesla believes that mountains can be radiographed by these rays and gold located without the trouble of excavating. He says that some Roentgen rays are without limit as to length and radiography. They are at present only limited by the toy apparatus used for producing them, but as it is only a question of tubes and currents, it is quite possible that they can be produced powerful enough to penetrate hills and mountains and the earth itself. A noted metallurgist has a radiograph of a piece of quartz showing gold embedded in the centre which is not visible to the naked eye. If the X-rays can be made to pierce the iron capping so prevalent in the Kootenays, and so difficult of working, it will be a great saving of time and labor. It would be very convenient to have a claim radiographed before recording it, so that the prospector may sell from photograph instead of sample. More improbable things have been accomplished.

An American exchange supplies the following interesting war statistics: The revolutionary war cost $135,193,703 and 30,000 lives; the war of 1812, $107,159,000 and 2000 lives; the Mexican war, $74,000,000 and 2000 lives; the Indian wars and other minor wars, $1,000,000,000 and 49,000 lives, and the war between the states, $8,500,000,000 and 544,000 lives. These figures, it will be observed, apply to times when the science of war and death dealing devices was not at all as advanced as at the present date. What the figures will be for the present war, now waging between America and Spain, it would be difficult to estimate, but the very thought makes one shudder.

The public are beginning to get impatient, and are asking when the vacancy on the bench of the supreme court is likely to be filled. It is nearly time that something definite was done in the matter. The authorities at Ottawa evidently favor the appointment of a political friend, who has never set foot in this province. Public feeling in British Columbia is decidedly opposed to such a course, and justly so. There are several thoroughly competent men now in active practice here, who are fully qualified to fill the vacancy, and if an outsider be pitchforked on to the bench it will be most unfortunate. Appointments of this sort ought to be made without any political bias whatever—the fitness of the appointee for the position should be the main consideration. There is no reason why the office should remain vacant, especially considering the accumulation of business in the courts.

It was not thought that the war would have had any effect on mining business in Rossland (says the Rossland Times) but it has. Mining men and brokers state that never before has business in their line been so dull. Absolutely no stocks are selling. March was so much better than the preceding months that it was believed the expected improvement had commenced, but on the declaration of war between the United States and Spain a reaction set in that has been increasing in intensity ever since. Hopes that war will soon come to an end are to be heard on all sides.

DOWN IN A COAL MINE.

John Barton and Hiram Adams lived in the small village of Kingston. They were inseparable friends, having been schoolmates together for some years, and when, a few months before my story opens, they were both made orphans on the same day by a terrible accident in the mines, each found a family depending on him for support.

Neither shirked this burden of responsibility Manfully and well, during the long summer months, they worked side by side in the gloomy caverns of the earth.

One bright day in the latter part of April, an incident occurred which neither of the two friends will be likely to forget, though they live to be centenarians.

A new shaft, some 70 feet in depth, had been sunk during the preceding summer, and a great many miners—John Barton and Hiram Adams among the number—were still employed in making excavations.

Blasting by powder is by no means unusual in mines; or, in fact, in any work requiring the speedy removal of masses of earth and rock.

On this particular occasion a blast of more than ordinary proportions had been prepared, only a few yards from the bottom of the shaft.

To the barrels of powder was attached a fuse, by means of which it would be fired when the proper time arrived.

The miners in the groups were drawn up to the sunlight above, until only a few remained in the dusky, half-illumined recesses underground.

John Barton had been the first volunteer, and, therefore, was appointed as the person whose duty it would be to ignite the slow match.

"Let me take your place," Hiram pleaded. "Think of your mother and sister, if any accident should happen, John, you know it is dangerous."

"Yes; and I think that is a very good reason why I should not let you take my place."

"Then let me stay with you," Hiram urged an expression of anxiety on his friend's peril.

"A very sensible idea!" John exclaimed, laughingly. "If you stay with me, the danger will be increased, because the bucket will go up more slowly with two than with one. Now, no more arguments. You know how obstinate I am, and— Hello! That's the signal! Good-by, old fellow! I'll be with you up above in a few moments."

"Remember, John; be careful," were Hiram's last words, as he and the few remaining miners ascended in the bucket, leaving John Barton far below, every instant growing more indistinct, until only the light in his hat could be distinguished glimmering faintly in the darkness.

Soon even that disappeared, and Hiram Adams, looking very anxious and discontented found himself in the glaring sunshine, and stepped out of the bucket on terra firma.

He was bewildered by the sudden transition from gloom to light. Then his eyes rested on the pale, agitated face of pretty Annie Barton, who had brought her brother's midday lunch, as usual.

He went over to her and spoke reassuringly, and tried to convince her that there was no cause for alarm.

"They have lowered the bucket," he said presently. "Watch, and you will see the rope jerk twice, the signal from John that it is ready to be drawn up."

The girl endeavored to be calm, but she trembled violently.

An indefinite fear, a strange feeling of apprehension, weighed on Hiram's heart.

The group of swarthy-visaged miners, who were chatting with wives and sweethearts around the opening of the shaft, suddenly grew silent.

It was a moment of suspense, for the boy in the gloomy caverns, 70 feet under ground, was then engaged in lighting the slow match.

The men who were to turn the crank grasped the handles firmly, and no one spoke.

"Ah!"

"It was with a sigh of relief that Annie Barton, Hiram Adams and every person in the crowd saw the rope jerked twice.

The match had been applied, John would be with them in a few moments, and all would hear the muffled, rumbling sound of the great explosion in the depths of the earth.

A flush of color rose to Annie Barton's cheek and Hiram Adams felt his heart beating rapidly and his breath coming in short gasps.

The men at the crank worked with a will, when they heard a dull, muffled sound, the rope slackened, and—

"Oh, heavens!"

Annie Barton started forward, her face blanched and a look of horror glazing her wide-open eyes.

Hiram Adams staggered as though shot, then a man spoke:

"The bucket has capsized—struck the partition. The boy has fallen out!"

Women fainted, strong men grew weak and shuddered, as they thought of the explosion that was expected every moment.

The suspense was terrible. A boy, perhaps mangled and helpless, was lying at the bottom of the shaft, and the fuse was burning slowly toward the mass of powder.

"Courage, Annie! I'll save him!"

It was Hiram Adams who spoke. In a second he had regained his presence of mind, and now, running his arm through the loop of a lantern, he leaped over the box which surrounded the opening of the shaft, crying to the terror stricken miners:

"Hold tight till I reach the bucket, then lower me like lightning to the bottom!"

He grasped the rope, twined his legs around it, then slid downward. The rough rope cut his hands, but he did not feel the pian.

Down, down, like a flash he descended through the darkness—down to his helpless friend and to the match which was slowly but surely burning its way toward the powder.

Thank heaven! He has reached the bucket! Another instant he has reached the bottom of the shaft! Is he too late? Is it time for the explosion—hush!

A cold perspiration broke out on every brow. There was an awful silence up above. Annie Barton tried to pray.

The agony of suspense was terrible. Men could hear each other's hearts beat in the awful stillness. Would the end never come?

How was it with Hiram Adams?

As he reached the bottom, one glance told him all. His friend was stunned and senseless.

He leaped from the bucket, and the light of the lantern showed him the place where the fuse had been laid.

The glimmering little line of fire was within an inch of the train of powder!

Another second and there would be a flash, an explosion louder than thunder, and then the walls round about would be shattered into a thousand fragments.

One little inch of the fuse stood between two human beings and a frightful death.

With a cry the boy sprang forward. He pressed his smarting hands upon the last particle of the burning match, and he lay there for a moment with clenched teeth and suspended breath. Then he arose.

Huzza! The fuse was extinguished, and he and his friend were safe.

He lifted the insensible form of John Barton into the bucket and gave the signal to be drawn up.

What a thrill of joy ran through every heart when the watchers in the sunlight saw that wholesome sign. How the men worked at the crank! How long the seconds seemed, while the buckets ascended up, up, up! until a cheer such as man never before uttered burst from the assembled miners, when they saw, rising out of the earth, the figure of Hiram Adams supporting his insensible friend.

"He is not dead—only stunned," were the young hero's first words, when gentle hands relieved him of his burden and men crowded around him with loud congratulations and women kissed him in the exuberance of their joy.

But when Hiram saw the glad light leap into Annie Barton's eyes, and the warm, red flush suffuse her cheeks—when he marked the silent look of speechless gratitude she gave him—he felt more than rewarded for his act of heroism in rescuing a friend from death.

The sequel to my story is a simple one.

Besides a broken arm and a few ugly bruises, John Barton sustained no serious injuries, and in a few days he was once more himself.

Both he and his friend received lucrative clerkships in the office of the company, and a few years later, pretty Annie Barton became the wife of Hiram Adams, the preserver of her brother's life.

And so it happened that neither of the two friends had reason to regret the fearful peril they encountered when, on one memorable April day, they were brought face to face with death down in a mine.

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LARRY'S LETTER.

HOGAN'S ALLEY, May 9.

DEER TIM—I got yer welcum letter last week which foinds me in the same good helth as it laves you at presint, an' was glad to heer that the state ov Ireland is as good as any State in the Union. I hope ye dont main to say that yer foighting over there, for ye must know that every State in the Union is at war at prisent wid Spain, over Cuba, an' all the milesha is called out to foight the Spanyards. They had a naval battle the other day, an' the Spanyards got a grate wolloping entoirely; they were nockt to smithereens. I dunno which ov the mans-ov-war yer frend Leary's cousin is captain ov, but I never heerd tell ov the Ohio squadron in me loife. I'm afeerd Leary's cousin is a bit of a lyart when he says he's captain ov the Ohio navy squadron.

An' talking of the melisha, Tim, we're going to have won here in British Columbia, to be called the Rockey Mountain Regmint, an' a high-up set ov chaps they'll be. There's won thing about us here that we can nevir see the enemy coming until he has the drop on us. The Major-Gineral was axing meself about the uniform he'd give the boys. He was in favor ov red coats, but I towld him that wouldn't do at all at all in the mountains. "How would a smelter-smoke shade do?" says he. "It wouldn't do at all, at all," says I. "How would a powder-smoke shade do?" says he. "Now, Gineral," says I, "if you'll take a bit ov friendly advice from an owld melishaman, you'll keep the boys as far away from the idea ov smoke an' powder as evir ye can. Give a uniform ov quartz-colored Irish freize or sky blue Killorney tweed, wid a goold band round the cap to show that the regiment belongs to the richest country in the world." "You're roight, Mr. Finn," says the gineral, says he, "but can ye show me any raison for togging the boys out in sky-blue an' goold." "Yes, gineral," says I, "I can refer ye to the very best authority in the country, bar none, on uniforms or anything else." "An' who might that be, Mr. Finn?" says the gineral, says he. "The Corporation ov the City ov Nelson," says I. "They're going to get uniforms for the police force," says I, "an' thim is the colors they've decoided on." "Do ye main to tell me," says the gineral says he, "that they're going to rig out the whole polise force in blue an' goold." "That's what they're going to do," says I. (Ov coorse I didn't tell him that there's only the won polisman in the whole force). Then he towld me he'd loike to see the uniform, an' axed meself if I'd moind chaperawning him to the polis barricks. Begorra, Tim, tis meself was in a fix, for dickens a polise barracks we have in Nelson at all at all. So what does I do but walk him round the town an' round the town, an' he thinking I was bringing him to the barracks. But I was keeping me eye skinned for the chief all the toime. At last I sthruck him fornint the Madden House, an' introduced the gineral to him. The first thing he clapt his eye upon was Mac's badge. "I observe," says the gineral, says he, "ye saw sarvice." "Oh, yis," says Mac, "in the 9th Nanaimos an' the Provincial Scouts a' the Cayuse Cavalry." I gave Mac the wink, an' towld him the gineral wanted to know about the new uniform. "Its to be blue an' goold, I'm towld," says the gineral. "Blue an' goold for the men, an' goold an' blue for the officers," says Mac, an' wid that he began to describe a uniform that the loikes ov was never seen, wid stroipes on the back ov the pants, where they ought to be given, insted ov on the arm. But the gineral "caught on," as they say, an' we didn't part the best ov frends. Anyway, Mac is going to be uniformed, an' I'll be telling ye about his new clothes as soon as he gets them. The Mayor is gone East to buy the suit.

Ye wor telling me that you're going to make yer will, Tim. Meself cant tell ye what to sav in it, but I'm sending ye a copy ov Ned Doolan's will, an' ye can alter it to suit yerself, only be sure to write wid ink an' a pen:

"I, meself, Edward Doolan, of Ballydownderry, farmer, in the County of Clare, being sick and wake on me legs, but of sound head and warm heart, do make this me last will and owld and new testament. First, I give me sowl to God, when it plaises Him to take it, and me body to be buried in the graveyard of Ballydownderry chapel, where all me relations that's gone before me and those that live after belonging to me are buried. Pace to their ashes, and may the sod rest quietly over their bones. Bury me near me Uncle Ned, on me father's side, and me mother, who lie separated at the other side of the chapel yard. I leave the bit of ground containg ten acres, and the rint and taxes due upon it, to me son Edward, after the death of his mother, if he lives to survive her. To my daughter Mary and her husband Paddy O'Regan, I leave the white sow, and all the bonhams she may have now and for all time to come, likewise the roan cow. I leave me good name and national principles to be shared among all me relations, and me watch to be raffled to cover the expenses of the wake. Bury me dasent and wake me well. I lave to Pat Rafferty the keg of potheen I can't finish, and may the Lord be merciful to him."

Ye can alter this will to suit yerself, Tim, an' if you've anything worth leaving dont forget yer ould frend

LARRY FINN.

CO-OPERATION.

The system of co-operation has been very generally adopted, and wherever given a fair show, under anything like favorable circumstances, has proved a success. It has even succeeded under unfavorable circumstances. I am not aware of any more favorable conditions for successful co-operation than those which prevail in this country. Our miners and prospectors are scattered over a practically unlimited area, in small unorganized bands. Their work is hard, their privations great and nothing save that infatuation which their mode of life seems to instil—that hope of striking it rich some day—could induce them to persist. The miner will work underground, when he gets the chance, for six months in the year to save enough to prospect in the hills while the season lasts. There are others less fortunate who do not secure work during the winter months, and who, to defray mere living expenses during the dull season, are obliged to part with some of the best things they have located at a sacrifice. So that the man who really endures all the hardships of exploitation is he who fares the worst, in ninety cases out of a hundred. Is not mining a branch of business in which co-operation would be advantageous? Instead of scattering north, south, east and west, would it not be better for a few practical men to get together, pick out the most promising claim on their list, and co-operate in working it for all it is worth? At present they often sell their claims for a couple of hundred dollars, the property passes into the hands of another who turns it over at four or five times the money, and finally it comes into the poesession of the syndicate to reap the profits which should go into the pocket of the prospector, and would be his if he but conducted his business on the co-operative plan. Instead of selling undeveloped properties for a mere trifle, he might on this plan develop them and rake in the big money. Such a system would also be more beneficial to the country at large, inasmuch as it would keep the profits in the country and tend to its speedy development. One developed property in a district does more to establish a reputation than a score of prospects however good they may be. It does not need more capital than the ordinary miner or prospector generally possesses to go into a scheme of this sort. When men establish their faith in a property by devoting all their energies and substance to working it, they gain the confidence of capital. Practical men will know a good thing when they strike it, and if it be their own they will work it more energetically and economically than if it were in the hands of some corporation, and their interests were chiefly in seeing that the pay-sheet be properly made up and the cheques duly honored. Sufficient work can generally be done by hand and a cheap plant to demonstrate the value of a property before heavy, expensive machinery need be introduced. If this much be accomplished, there would be no difficulty in getting the necessary machinery—the security would be as good as any manufacturer could desire. Mining, it strikes me, is essentially a business adapted to the co-operative plan. A dozen men or so, bound by ties of self-interest if nothing else, could accomplish much in this way. The plan has not been given a fair trial in this province, so far as I can learn, but it is one at least worthy of consideration.

I have seen the co-operative system applied to mining in other countries, and with the best results. But in British Columbia the mining laws as they exist have, I fear, a tendency to tie up the country. The ease with which men can stake off any number of claims and leave them idle, is a bad feature. It encourages a co-operation to retard development. That three or four men, through the simple operation of annual transfer, should be able to tie up a whole section of country, is decidedly wrong.

TENTO.

THE CITY COUNCIL.

The weekly meeting of the city council was held on Monday afternoon, Ald. Teetzel, acting mayor, presiding. Ald. Madden, Gilker, Hillyer and City Engineer McCulloch were also present.

Ald. Hillyer asked for an extension of time to deal with the Stanley street sidewalk, which was granted.

Ald. Hillyer reported on behalf of the special committee appointed to look after a case of distress reported to the council. They had decided to send the destitute pair to Spokane.

The mayor also reported having inquired into the case. The Kellogs were anxious to get to Victoria, but he was unable to arrange for their transport. He wanted the old woman to go to the hospital, but she would not do so. They were then sent to Spokane.

Tenders were received for the opening of Josephine street, between Victoria and Silica. J. Noel offered to do the work at $1.75 per cubic yard for rock and 30 cents for earth; Newling & Co., $1.55 for rock and 60 cents for earth, and Swan Nelson $2 for rock and 65 cents for earth.

The city engineer figured out th t Noel's tender would amount to $790 and Newling's to $800.

On motion of Ald. Hillyer the contract was awarded to Noel, his being the lowest figure.

Tenders were also opened for the laying of a sewer on Baker street, from Hall to Hendryx. The contract was awarded to J. Thomson, at $112, and $1 per yard for rock. The other tenders ranged from $220 to $235, with extras for rock work.

H. J. McDonald wrote, offering to do the street sprinkling at 70 cents per hour.

The mayor was authorized to enter into a contract for the work.

A communication was received from an eastern firm offering to supply the city with a rock crusher.

Referred to Board of Works.

A claim of $7,000 was sent in from the City of Nelson Land & Improvement Co. for damage done to property by reason of the waterworks.

The mayor explained that this was a preliminary step to referring the matter to arbitration, as per understanding.

The mayor read a telegrem received by H. J. Evans from the National Tube Co., stating that the pipe ordered by the city would be shipped as per agreement.

The City Special Rate Amendment By-Law was passed through its initial stages, and held over until next meeting for final consideration. It amends by-law 31 by providing "that the rate hereby imposed and levied on improvements shall be on 50 per cent. only of the assessed value theoecf."

The Waterworks Extension, Cemetery, Purchase of Electric Light Co.'s franchise ($40,000), and Completion of Sewerage System ($10,000) by-laws were submitted and run through their initial stages. They will be read a third time at next meeting of the Council.

A number of accounts were submitted and passed.

The City Engineer was called upon for an estimate for the opening up of Ward street between Baker and Silica.

It was decided to put the sprinkling of the streets under the supervision of the Chief of the Fire Brigade.

Some routine business having been disposed of the Council adjourned.

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THE KLONDYKE.

The Klondyke trade has again taken a turn, and the crowds of misguided men who are pressing north in the chase after fortune would indicate that the boom has not even yet burst. The navigation on the Stickeen has opened—much earlier this season than is usual, and this will have the effect of facilitating matters for those anxious to get in, as well as making it easier for those who have put in a dreary and profitless winter to get out. The overland routes seem to be every day becoming more popular, despite the efforts of the business men of the coast cities to belittle them, while transport companies appear to be doing an immense business carrying people both to and from the gold fields. Returning Klondykers give a very gloomy account of the country. Every inch of ground for miles about all the established centres of population has been staked off and duly recorded, so that the new hands will have to go further afield if they intend to do any good for themselves. There are already in the country more laborers than can secure employment, and hundreds if not thousands of them are trying in vain, in this land of gold and Godlessness, to get work in lieu of board. This is a sad state of affairs. As yet, however, the worst has not been told—the death roll has not been made up, but it ought to be available soon, at least approximately. Chas. E. Stillman, of Los Angeles, who has recently returned from the north, says:

"It will be wonderful if some mortal fever does not rage in Dawson next summer. If there was ever a community properly situated for the development of pestilence it is Dawson City. The mountain curtails the expansion of the town. The people now live almost as closely together as in a large city. Fancy what it will be by next July, when 1,500,000 people shall have set foot on that narrow bench along the river! There is no sewerage or drainage, no water supply from any uncontaminated source, and no attention is paid to simple hygiene in that land of quick fortune-making. Around the base of the mountain to the west is an area of several hundred acres of marsh land, and one can see the malaria-laden vapor rising like steam from an engine on a mid-summer morning. Last summer the 1,200 people at Dawson City were more or less ill with malaria, and there were a few deaths from fever. The mosquitoes rise during the months of June, July and August in swarms from the moss that abounds everywhere in the Klondyke region, and they are so ferocious that mules and dogs have many times run away and leaped madly over embankments to escape them. Dawson City has been growing right along all winter. An occasional dip of the mercury to 45 deg. to 50 deg. below zero has had no effect on the building operations there.

PROHIBITION.

To the Editor of The Economist.

Sir,—Your correspondent "Tento" may be a very versatile individual, but when he undertakes to write an prohibition, he exhibits an ignorance which had he any knowledge of the subject, could not be possible. "Tento" argues, or tries to argue, that there is no nenessity for prohibition, and tells us that all that is necessary is to amend and enforce the liquor laws, and that we will hear no more about prohibition. He is evidently not one of us. I should judge him to be a person who takes his glass and sees no harm in it, contenting himself with the convenient avowal, "I am not my brother's keeper." He does not attempt to deny that the liquor traffic is responsible for nine-tenths of the crime and poverty of the country, that the liquor laws are not what they ought to be, that such as they are they are not enforced, or that even such changes as he suggests would put a stop to drunkenness. Adopting the changes suggested by "Tento" might improve matters somewhat, but instead of going to the root of the evil he would prune the tree. I have boys in my family, and my greatest fear for them is that when they develop into manhood they will be tempted as I have been and yield as I have yielded. No, sir: no half measures will suffice in dealing with the liquor traffic. I would respectfully call the attention of your correspondent to the following significant remarks made at a meeting of the Ohio Liquor League by one of the officers, and ask him if, in the face of such a doctrine, he will still claim that prohibition is unnecessary:

"It will appear from these facts, gentlemen, that the success of our business is largely dependent upon the creation of appetite for drink. Men who drink liquors, like others, will die, and if there is no new appetite created, our counters will be empty as will be our coffers. Our children will go hungry, or we must change our business to that of some other more lucrative. The open field for the creation of this appetite is among the boys. After men have grown and their appetites are formed, they rarely ever change in this regard. It will be needful, therefore, that this missionery work be done among the boys, and I make the suggestion, gentlemen, that nickels expended in treats to the boys now, will return in dollars to your tills alter the appetite has been formed. Above all things—create the appetite."

This is the doctrine that those interested in the liquor traffic preach, and, I am forced to believe, practice, too.—Yours in earnest,

I.O.G.T.

Rev. R. Frew has been appointed on the standing committee on foreign missions by the Presbyterian synod.

Sir Louis Davies announces that he hopes to induce his colleagues to consent to securing a second government vessel for service in British Columbian waters. He also stated that a training ship for youths to be drafted for the government protection service will be established.

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Ladies' Parasols, Spring Capes and Jackets.

LOCAL NEWS.

Building operations are very brisk in Nelson at present.

The Nelson Miner made its appearance yesterday as a daily.

Rossland, Kaslo, Silverton and several other Kootenay towns will celebrate on the 24th. Nelson is not in it.

A lacrosse match between the New Comers and Old Timers will take place on Saturday afternoon at the recreation grounds.

The big C.P.R. barge was towed down from Kaslo the other day with 375 cords of wood on deck for the Hall mines smelter.

The Chief of Police, as sanitary officer, has notified a number of parties to clean up. Those who fail to do so will be summoned.

Mayor Houston telegraphs from Ottawa that there is little hope of inducing the government to impose a heavier import duty on lead and lead products.

The grading of Water Street has been completed. In some places where deep cuts had to be made soft sand was encountered. It makes a very bad road bed.

Commencing Friday, 6th inst., the steamer Kokanee leaves Kaslo at 9.15 p.m for round trip to Lardo and Argenta, and will continue making regular trips on Fridays and Tuesdays of each week.

An action for $1,000 against the C.P.R. will be heard in County Court to-morrow. The plaintiff is one Mannario, who claims that his son met his death on the railway line between Robson and Nelson through the negligence of the company.

At the regular monthly meeting of the Kootenay Lake General Hospital Society, held yesterday, Dr. G. A. B. Hall was re-appointed medical officer, and arrangements were made by which the medical practitioners of the city can send patients to the hospital by making arrangements for the payment of hospital fees.

Hewitt Bostock, M,P., writes to the secretary of the East Kootenay Miners' Association stating that he has represented to the government the desirability of encouraging the lead smelting industry as per their resolution but is afraid the session is now too far advanced to enable the subject to be dealt with.

The mayor has been authorized to arrange for the watering of the streets.

Application is to be made for a hotel and liquor license for premises in Bogustown.

The public sewerage system will be extended on Baker Street, from Hall to Hendryx.

Ald. Whalley is on the sick list. He has been granted leave of absence by the city council.

Joseph James Chambers was last week wedded to Miss Blanch Gordon, at the Methodist church.

A contract has been let for the opening up of Josephine street. A great deal of rock will be encountered.

The dog-catcher has not yet made his appearance. He could bag many a worthless canine if he was now operating.

The steamer Halys brought in a boom of 300 piles the other day to be used in the construction of the new C.P.R. wharf.

An agitation is on foot to have all places of business in the city closed at seven or half past every evening. It is meeting with success.

A. T. Whalley who joined the Benedicts at Revelstoke last week, has returned to Nelson with his bride, who up to Tuesday was Miss May Clipperton.

Work at the Hall Mines smelter has been temporarily shut down, to allow of the stringing of the new tramway rope. The reverboratories are kept in operation.

The Italian who was shot in the head by Foreman Cline, near Kuskonook, a short time ago, is progressing favorably and will be able to appear for trial. His partner is also getting on well at the Kootenay Lake General Hospital.

District Freight Agent Peters of the C.P.R. has returned from a business trip through East Kootenay, and reports having made arrangements for the more expeditious handling of freight, especially into the Moyie Lake district. The sleigh road from Kuskonook has broken up earlier than usual, and a number of small towns along the route were obliged to get in their supplies by way of Fort Steele. Arrangements made with the contractors on railway construction will obviate this by an improved route via Thompson's ranch.

The grading of Baker Street continues, and work has progressed nearly as far as Hall Street.

Receiving basins are being built at the corners of intersecting streets on Baker to hold surplus surface water.

Work on the Odd Fellows hall has been suspended for the present. The stone foundations have been completed.

The County Court is now in session, Judge Forin presiding. The docket is a short one, and with the exception of a couple of cases, of no public interest.

Some 32 miners employed at the Le Roi mine are out on strike in consequence of an order calling for ten hours work per day in the shaft, instead of eight as heretofore.

There is a city pound and a pound-keeper, but straying livestock do not appear to know the fact. They are having all the recreation they want, and are not limited as to area.

The waters of the lake continue to rise, and are higher at this season than they have been for years. Being on a level with the outer portion of the city wharf, steamers now tie up at the sides.

Bids for the construction of the Columbia & Western railway from Robson to Midway, a distance of 100 miles, will be opened on June 15th. This will give the people of the Boundary Creek country the railway accommodation promised by the C.P.R. The new road at Robson will connect with the Trail branch, thence to Dog creek and across the pass, down McCrea Creek to Christina Lake, and over to Midway. The work will be pressed forward with all possible speed.

On Friday morning an important appeal will be heard before Judge Forin, involving the right of saw mills to dispose of their refuse material by casting same into the waters of the lake. T. W. Gray, proprietor of the Nelson Saw and Planing mill, is the appellant. It will be remembered that Mr. Gray, some time ago, was convicted of a breach of the Fisheries Act, for allowing the saw dust of his mill to enter the river. From this conviction he now appeals. Much interest is manifested in the case, as the question involved is an important one.

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WOMAN'S KINGDOM.

A specialist says: "Tincture of benzoin is very detrimental to oily skins. The familiar rosewater and glycerin in the majority of instances makes the complexion dry, yellow and leathery. Steaming the face robs the skin of its natural oil, causes wrinkles to appear and makes one sensitive to neuralgia. Under the delusive pretense of facial massage many hundred of women have had the delicate tissues of their faces pinched and slapped and rubbed and twisted without any regard whatever for the natural condition of the skin. Disappointment generally follows the use of all the things I have mentioned, and also of the methods employed. All of these remedies are enough to ruin a woman's face. One should be as careful about soaps used on the skin as about diet. The best soap in the world for the complexion is a pure olive soap.

In a long letter printed in one of the London weeklies by one who has spent some time in this country, she urges English women to assist in the solution of the domestic service problem by being more independent of servants. "Let each girl," she begs, "be taught on leaving school at least how to care for her bedroom." Then realizing how radical are her views, she hastens to exclaim and explain. "Why not?" she says. "Our American sisters—except those of the extreme fashionable caste which has arisen of late years—do this as a matter of course, as they also do many things about the house which we never dream of touching, and that they are one whit behind us in the niceties of life any one who has had the privilege of spending any time in the bosom of a typical American family will strenuously deny." The paper goes on at considerable length to point out the value of fewer servants and of becoming one's own housemaid in a limited degree, and explains in detail the method necessary.

That the beauty of women, like that of men, should be determined from the standpoint of advancing maturity cannot be disputed. It is absurd to claim that the ripe, rich beauty of 40 is less attractive than the budding immaturity of sweet 16. Where women live in harmony with nature's laws each stage of life has its own charm. The physical beauty of women should last growing more and more mellow, until the end. The fullness of beauty does not reach its zenith under the age of 35 or 40. Helen of Troy comes upon the stage at the age of 40. Aspasia was 36 when married to Pericles, and she was a brilliant figure 30 years thereafter. Cleopatra was past 30 years when she met Antony. Diane de Poitiers was 36 when she won the heart of Henry II. The king was half her age, but his devotion never changed. Anne of Austria was 38 when described as the most beatiful women in Europe. Mme. de Maintenon was 43 when united to Louis, and Catherine of Russia 33 when she seized the throne she occupied for 35 years. The old saw about sweet 16 is exploded by the truer knowledge that the highest beauty does not dwell in immaturity, for beauty does not mean alone the fashion of form and coloring as found in the waxen doll. The dew of youth and a complexion of roses are admiral for that period, but a women's best and richest years are from 36 to 40. It is arrant error for any women to regard herself as passe at any age if she grows old gracefully.

There has been much discussion about the invasion of all fields of occupation by the female sex. It is said that every occupation now followed by men, with the exception of two—that of soldiers and mariners—is also followed by women. From a recent paragraph, it is evident that in England, an unusual occupation has also been invaded by women. The director of the Royal Horticultural Gardens at Kew has placed two young ladies at work there. These two damsels came from Swanley Horticultural College, which makes a specialty the study of flowers, plants, and fruits by women. The only condition that the director has made is that they shall wear trousers while at work. This was rendered necessary because they could not be engaged as "gardeners," owing to the age limitations, but only as "boys," and the conscientious director could not see his way clear to engaging them as "boys" unless they wore trousers, which they cheerfully donned. He has since had many applications from other girls who also wished to don the breeks.

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SPARE MOMENTS.

Mamma: "Teddy, what would you like to give your cousin Harry on his birthday?" Teddy: "Well, I know, but I'm not big enough to give him what I want to."

Doctor: "Did you give the children the physic I sent last night?" Fond Mother: "Yes, sir." Doctor: "And how are they today?" Fond Mother: "Well, the little un's very bad, to be sure. But it don't seem to 'ave done t'other un no 'arm as yet."

"Rastus, I see you are here again. I believe you have been tried and convicted seven times for stealing." Rastus: "Yes, jedge; it seems to be nuttin' but temptations and trials wid me in dis life."

It was at the club. Waiter (at 11 p. m.): "There is a lady outside who says her husband promised to be at home early to-night." All (rising): "Excuse me a moment."

"I don't see how Ethel has so many admirers," she remarked. "She neither sings, plays, paints, nor speaks French." "H'm," he replied reflectively, "maybe that's why."

Dr. Probe: "My wife gave a Welsh rarebit party last night." Dr. Reaber: "Was it a success?" Dr. Probe: "Immense. I've had twelve extra calls to-day."

Oculist (after examination of the eye): "Yes, it is, as I supposed, a case of choroiditis exsudative, accompanied by partial micropsia, metamorphosia, and chromatropsic scotoma, of singularly regular forms." Young Lady: "There! and ma said it was only a sty coming."

The world is slow to believe that any man can have the same kind of religion in a horse trade that he has in church.

Mr. Goodboy: "Does your sister know I am here?" Tommy: "I guess so; I saw her leave the house right after you came in."

The lazier a man is the greater things he is going to do when tomorrow comes.

"Is he good natured?" "Good-natured! Why I have known that man to speak kindly to his wife when she was removing a porous plaster from his back!"

"Yer look bad, Jim. Been under weather?" "Sorter. To-day's the first time I've been out er doors in three months." "What was the matter with you?" "Nothin.; but the judge wouldn't believe it."

"Doctor, do you think my wife will recover?" "O, Yes. I told her already, had a wife picked out for you in case she didn't get well."

Mr. Brown: I've got a cold or something in my head." Mrs. Brown: It must be a cold, dear, I'm sure."

Robert (who was at the office very late last night): "My dear, have you seen anything of my boots?" She (sweetly): "Yes, love; they are down here on the hat rack."

"Your wife takes great interest in the women question." "She does, sir; she is so taken up with the rights of women that she forgets men have any."

"Have you boarded long at this house?" inquired the new boarder of the sour, dejected man sitting next to him. "About ten years." "I don't see how you can stand it. Why haven't you left long ago?" "No other place to go," said the other dismally; "the landlady's my wife."

Chicago Visitor: "What would you do if you was me?" Boston Maid: "I think I would take a few lessons in grammer."

"How is it that Dodger finds boarding cheaper than housekeeping, with his large family?" "I suppose that one reason is that he never pays his board bill."

"Henry," said Mrs. Binkins, "do you think this will be a hard winter?" "Of course it will be," replied Binkins; "freezing makes even the water hard." And Mrs. Binkins silently pondered on what a nice thing it is to have a smart man for a husband.

Smith: "Just look how those confounded hens of yours have scratched up my seeds?" Brown: "And it's a jolly good thing for your seeds, I can tell you. They'd never come up at all if they weren't scratched up!"

The Manhattan

The only first-class saloon in the city.

The Choicest Liquors always in stock.

Mixed drinks of all kinds a specialty.

All the best brands of cigars are to be had at

The Manhattan

D. A. McBEATH, Proprietor.

Josephine St., - Between Baker and Victoria.

SUNBURN TAN AND FRECKLES

Roman Kalydor removes these annoyances, softens the skin and beautifies the complexion. No lady's toilet complete without it. For sale only at

VANSTONES' DRUG STORE

Cor. Baker and Josephine Sts.

P. BURNS & Co.

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL

Meat Merchants

HEAD OFFICE: Nelson, B. C.

. . BRANCHS AT . .

ROSSLAND TRAIL NELSON KASLO
SANDON THREE FORKS SLOCAN CITY

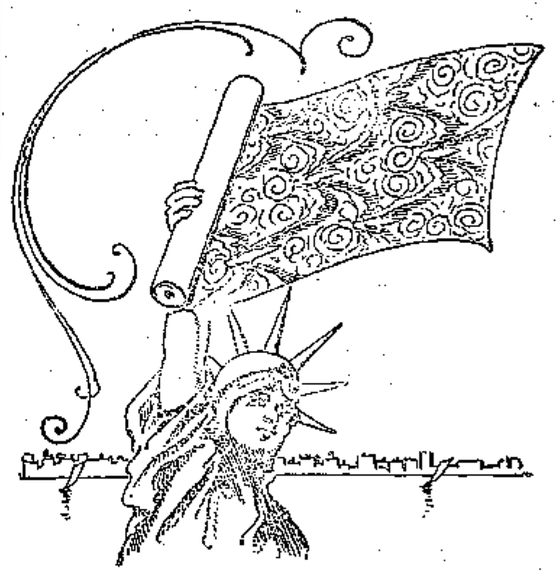
QUEENSWARE GLASSWARE AND CROCKERY

constantly arriving and on hand. The latest in Foreign patterns of Tableware in China and Glass.

WINE, SHERRY, CHAMPAGNE AND BEER GLASSES

Decanters, Bitters Bottles, in cut, blown and pressed glass. Groceries including Canned Goods, Fresh Creamery Butter, Eggs, Fruit and Vegetables, Choice Smoked Meats, Salt Fish, Dried Fruits and Meats.

KIRKPATRICK & WILSON.



We want to enlighten our little world about us in regard to **Wall Paper Buying.** We want you to know that right here you will find the Choicest, Cheapest and Cheeriest patterns. Buy nowhere till you have looked about you enough to see what we are showing. We don't want you to buy from only examining our stock but we want you to see other stocks and know the superiority of . . . . Ours.

Canada Drug and Book Co., L'td.

Corner Baker and Stanley Sts., Nelson.

THE HOTEL HUME

H. D. HUME, Manager.

Is Now Open to the Public . . . .

New Building, New Furnishing, Steam Heat in every Room, Everything Strictly First-Class, Large and Well-Lighted Sample Rooms.

Corner Vernon and Ward Streets.

NELSON, B.C.

STAR BAKERY.

Corner Josephine and Latimer Streets. R. G. JOY, Prop

Bread Delivered to any Part of Town.

And can be obtained from Kirkpatrick & Wilson, Baker Street; C G. Davis, Ward Street; T. J. Scanlan, Stanley Street; and Maurine Grocery, Hume Addition.

Ask Your Grocer for Joy's Bread.

GENERAL NOTES.

Major Walsh says that the gold in Klondike cannot keep him in the northern country. He will resign his position as administrator and will return to civilization some time in July.

Fred E. Freeman, a Seattle tough, entered the Germinia saloon at Victoria at 2.30 the other morning and held up at the point of a pistol the proprietor and bartender and demanded $2.50, which he obtained. At the hearing in the police court he was committed for trial.

Frank Slavin, the pugulist, who has been in Ottawa lobbying for the last three months, is on his return to Dawson City, to be present at the wash-up. Slavin is reported to have some rich claims in the Yukon.

The C. P. R. bill, authorizing the Nakusp & Slocan Railway Company to extend its line 10 miles to Three Forks, has passed the senate railway committee.

J. F. McGregor, the government mining inspector at Dawson, puts the output of the wash-up at $20,000,000.

While the present war continues Canada is likely to become the distributing point for merchandise imported into the United States, according to the Toronto Globe.

The military forces in the Yukon will cost about $200,000 per year, in addition to the Mounted Police now there.

It is expected that between forty and fifty delegates from the various lodges of the Knights of Pythias will attend the Grand Lodge convention which takes place in Kamloops this week.

Lady Aberdeen is credited with having given wholesome advice to Ottawa's fair sex. She told them to be more sociable to visiting ladies and not let them be wallflowers.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier declined to say whether the government would accept a majority of these voting on the question as warrant for the introduction of a prohibition bill, or whether a majority of the registered voters would be required. The vote will be taken some time in the fall.

The city council has, subject to the ratifying vote of the taxpayers of Vancouver, agreed to pass a by-law granting to the Van Anda Gold and Copper Mining Company a subsidy of 49 cents a ton on ores smelted by it at a smelter to be built and operated at some point within five miles of the limits of Vancouver, the total subsidy payable to be limited to an aggregate of 125,000 tons, making $50,000 in all.

Notice to Contractors.

Sealed whole tenders will be received until 12 o'clock noon, on Saturday, May 14th, for the erection of a three story brick building with stone basement, for the Lawrence Hardware Co. Plans and specifications can be seen at the office of the undersigned. The lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

EWART & CARRIE, Architects,
Room 6, Clement & Hillyer Block.

PROVINCIAL SECRETARY'S OFFICE.

His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor has been pleased to make the following appointments—

28th March, 1898.

EDWARD PERCY WHALLEY, of the City of Nelson, Esquire, to be a Justice of Peace within and for the County of Kootenay.

EDUCATION.

Notice is hereby given that the annual examination of candidates for certificates of qualification to teach in the Public Schools of the Province will be held as follows, commencing on Monday, July 4th, 1898, at 8:45 a.m.:

Victoria.....In South Park School Building.
Vancouver.....In High School Building.
Kamloops.....In Public School Building.

Each applicant must forward a notice, thirty days before the examination, stating the class and grade of certificate for which he will be a candidate, the optional subjects selected, and at which of the above-named places he will attend.

EVERY notice of intention to be an applicant must be accompanied with satisfactory testimonial of moral character.

Candidates are notified that all of the above requirements must be fulfilled before their application can be filed.

All candidates for First Class, Grade A, Certificates, including Graduates, must attend in Victoria to take the subjects prescribed for July 13th and 14th instants, and to undergo required oral examination.

S. D. POPE,
Superintendent of Education.

Education Office,
Victoria, May 4th, 1898.

LAND ACT.

Take notice that sixty days after date I intend to apply to the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works for leave to purchase one hundred and sixty acres of land at Crawford Bay, in the district of West Kootenay, B.C., adjoining on the east side of Lot 196, G. 1. Starting from a post marked "H. B. Thomson's initial post north west corner," thence east 20 chains, thence south 80 chains, thence west 20 chains, thence north 80 chains to starting point.

HENRY B. THOMSON.

Dated, March 26, 1898.

Notice of Dissolution of Partnership.

Notice is hereby given that the partnership heretofore existing between the undersigned carrying on business under the name and style of The California Wine Company, as Wholesale Liquor and Cigar Merchants, has this day been dissolved by mutual consent.

Witness our hands at the City of Nelson, British Columbia, this 14th day of April, 1898.

Signed in the presence of } L. ERNST.
A. M. JOHNSON, } THOS. ADAIR.
Solicitor, Nelson, B.C.

NOTICE.

All moneys due the California Wine Company are to be paid to me, who will assume and pay all liabilities of the said firm.

Witness: L. ERNST.
A. M. JOHNSON.

NOTICE.

Notice is hereby given that I have purchased all the lumber in the lumber yard known as "The Salmo Lumber Company, Lumber Yard," and by some as "The Lumber Yard of Thompson & Bell," situate near Gray's Mill, Nelson, B.C. I have also purchased all the outstanding accounts of the said yard, and sales made by or settlements made with any person or persons after this date other than myself will not be recognized, and are hereby forbidden.

Dated, this 25th day of April, 1898.

FRANK LAVIN.

NOTICE.

Notice is hereby given that the partnership heretofore existing between Catherine G. Davis and P. F. Jaynes, as grocers at the City of Nelson, under the firm name of Davis & Jaynes, has this day been dissolved by mutual consent.

The business will be carried on by the said P. F. Jaynes to whom all accounts due the partnership are to be paid, and who will settle all debts of the said partnership.

Witness our hands at Nelson this 6th day of April, 1898.

Witness } CATHERINE G. DAVIS
W. A. GALLIHER } By her attorney P. L. Davis
PERCY F. JAYNES.

To Shingle Makers.

I want to let a contract for sawing 4,000,000 shingles. Timber, machine and power furnished. Enquire, "O. K." ECONOMIST office.

LILLIES' SHOE HOUSE

Up-to-date Spring Footwear in great variety at Lillies'.

LILLIES' SHOE HOUSE

OPPOSITE HUDSON'S BAY CO.

Vancouver Hardware Co.

Mara Block, Nelson.

GENEREL HARDWARE, STOVES, MINING SUPPLIES, LAMPS AND LAMP GOODS, PLAIN AND FANCY. Agents for Armstrong & Morrison's Ore cars—the best in the market.

Send or Call and get Prices.

Nelson Planing Mill.

Doors, Sashes and Turned Work, Brackets and Office Fittings.

Satisfaction Guaranteed. Prices Reasonable.

THOS. GRAY, Nelson, B. C.

Special Notice.

We have just received our Ladies' Spring Capes and Jackets, and as there has been delay in their reaching here, we will sell them at a very small margin.

A nice lot of chiffons and veiling in this consignment

The latest designs in Dress Goods, also some of the newest colors in Silks for blouses at

A. FERLAND'S

Baker Street - - - Nelson, B.C.

Get your job printing done at the Economist office.

PERSONAL.

G. B. McDonald, of the Noble Five, is at the Hume.

W F. DuBois, Enterprise, is at the Hume.

F. C. Nevin, Whitewater, is paying Nelson a visit.

Neil F. Mackay, and Horace W. Bucke, barristers, are down from Kaslo attending county court.

R. B. Kerr, New Denver, registered at the Hume on Monday.

Dr. V. P. M. Gillicuddy, San Francisco, is at the Hume.

L. Kirkpatrick, Winnipeg, was in Nelson on Monday.

H. W. Simpson, Nakusp, is now registered at the Hume.

P. F. Richardson, Vancouver, is in town.

F. Johnson, Field, arrived in the city on Monday.

W. H. Maxwell, Revelstoke, is at the Hume.

J. Mithoit, Spokane, is now at the Phair.

H. S. Keller, San Francisco, is at the Phair.

W. Blakemore, of Crow's Nest Pass construction was again in town during the week.

W. H. Armstrong and wife and Miss Woodrow, Vancouver, are at the Phair.

YMIR.

(Special correspondence to THE ECONOMIST.)

The Ladies' Aid Society of the Methodist church gave another of their popular entertainments on Friday evening. About $40.00 was realized.

J. P. Rogers, of St. Mary, Ont., is back in the camp after an absence of over six months.

Ymir's first wedding took place on Saturday at the residence of Mr. P. Derenger. The contracting parties were H. A. McClure, manager of the Salmon River and Porcupine Mining Co., and Miss Ina Allen, sister of Mrs. Dieringer. The ceremony was private, and was performed by the Rev. Jas. Hicks. Miss Evelyn Kneeland acted as bridesmaid. Immediately after the wedding the happy couple left for the south. Upon their return they will take up their residence here. Mr. and Mrs. McClure are very popular in Ymir, and all join in wishing them happiness.

Ralph White, M. E., of Trail, was drowned in the Salmon River at the mouth of Porcupine Creek on Saturday afternoon about 4 o'clock. The government has been petitioned time and time again for a bridge over the river at this point, but very little satisfaction was to be had. The prospectors and mining men despairing of the bridge being put in this summer, organized to do it themselves, and while engaged on the work this lamentable accident occurred. Two stringers had been thrown across on which a roller was placed, and a third stringer had been thrown over when the deceased went out to cut the roller so as to let the stringer in position. As soon as he cut the rest the log rolled and threw him into the raging waters. He grasped the end of a tree that was projecting, but the waters swept him away and he sank. Parties immediately went in search and found the body about half a mile from the scene of the accident, caught on a snag. The remains were laid by side of the railway and when the train came along it was flagged, the body brought to town and his brother, who resides in Spokane, telegraphed for. He will take the remains to Trail. The deceased was very popular in Ymir, and much sympathy is expressed for his friends.

LAND REGISTRY ACT.

In the matter of an application for a Duplicate of a Certificate of Title to Lot Eight (8) Block Eleven (11) Town of Nelson.

Notice is hereby given that it is my intention at the expiration of one month from the first publication hereof to issue a duplicate of the Certificate of title of Donald McGillivray to (inter alia) the above land dated the 10th February, 1892, and numbered 13457a.

S. Y. WOOTTON.
Registrar-General.

Land Registry Office, Victoria, B. C.
6th May, 1898.

Application for Liquor License.

Notice is hereby given that thirty days after date hereof, we, the undersigned, intend to make application for a license to sell liquor by retail, on premises known as the Grove, situate at Bogustown, near the city of Nelson.

WM BROOKS
FREDERICK HERMAN.

Nelson, B.C., May 7th, 1898.

NOTICE.

I hereby give notice that I will not be responsible for any debts contracted by my wife, Elizabeth Goodwin, after this date.

F. C. GOODWIN.

Nelson, May 10th, 1898.

Money to Loan.

On Real Estate and for Building Purposes. House Property for sale—Central location—25 per cent on investment.

APPLY
STEWART & LENNOX, Agents
For the Canadian Mutual Loan & Investment Company, of Toronto, Ont. Offices: Corner Ward and Baker Streets. Nelson, B.C.

JOHN cLATCHIE
Dominion and Provincial Land Surveyor,
Opp. Custom House, Nelson, B. C.

Hammocks Hammocks Hammocks

New Stock, large variety prices low.

Thomson Stationery Co.
Baker St. - Nelson.

Mrs. McLaughlin.

Has just received an excellent line of

GLOVES

In all the latest shades, Fitted and guaranteed.

Gent's Furnishings

Are always in demand, when seasonable goods are offered at reasonable prices. We always carry a fine selection of **HATS** in all the newest shades and styles, and by the best makers, at prices which defy competition; also Neckwear, embracing the very latest novelties. The place to secure everything in the gent's furnishing line is at

EMORY & WALLEY'S
Baker Street, Nelson.

New Goods at Teetzel's Drug Store

Purses, Razor Straps and Fishing Tackle. Large Assortment. Prices Right.

W. F. TEETZEL & CO....
DRUGS AND ASSAY SUPPLIES. NELSON, B.C.

HORSE SHOEING
Wagon work and Blacksmithing in all its Branches.

Nelson Blacksmith Co.
H. A. PROSSER, Manager. Lake St., Opp. Court House. NELSON, B. C.

To preserve the health the medical profession are unanimous in declaring that **Joy's Bread** is a necessity. Take it and you will require no other blood purifier.

J. O. PATENAUDE,
Optician and Watchmaker,
McKillop Block, Baker street.
All work guaranteed.

Nelson Hardware Company.

LINSEED OIL
TURPENTINE
HARD OILS
VARNISHES

STAINS
LIQUID FILLERS
MIXED PAINTS
ENAMELS
WHITE LEAD

Nelson Hardware Company.
P. O. BOX 63. Telephone 9

W. J. QUINLAN, D. D. S.
DENTIST
Mara Block, - Baker Street, Nelson
Special attention given to crown and bridge work and the painless extraction of teeth by local anesthetics.

Dressmaking!

Miss E. Smith has opened Dress-making parlors in the Traves Block, Baker street, over McArthur's furniture store. All work done under the personal supervision of Miss Smith. Ladies will please note the address:

MISS E. SMITH,
Traves Block,
Baker Street.

Bruce's Express

And Delivery Service

Will always be found prompt and satisfactory. Parcels carried at reasonable rates and with the greatest care.

STAND: Front of Vancouver Hardware store, Baker Street.
Telephone 82.
Residence, near the brick yard, Water St.

...A CAR LOAD OF...

BASS' ALE, Quarts and Pints. GUINESS' STOUT, Quarts and Pints. Another Car Load of

Pabst Milwaukee Draft Beer

TURNER, BEETON & CO.,

Victoria, B. C., Vancouver, B. C., and London, Eng. NELSON, B. C.

Write for Liquor, Dry Goods and General Merchandise Catalogues just published.

CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY

AND SOO-PACIFIC LINE

DIRECT and SUPERIOR SERVICE ROUTE

To Eastern and European points. To Pacific Coast, China, Japan, Australia and the rich and active mining districts of

KLONDYKE AND THE YUKON

TOURIST CARS

Models of comfort

From Revelstoke daily

CONNECTIONS:

To Rossland and main land points:

Daily 6:40 p.m. leaves—NELSON—arrives Daily 10:30 p.m.

Kootenay Lake—Kaslo Route. Str. Kokanee.

Except Sunday 4 p.m. leaves—NELSON—arrives: Except Sunday 11 a.m.

Kootenay River Route, Str. Nelson:

Mon. Wed. Fri. 7 a.m. leaves—NELSON—arrives Mon. Wed. Fri 8:30 p.m.

Slocan City, Slocan Lake points and Sandon

Except Sunday 9 a.m. leaves—NELSON—arrives Except Sunday 2:20 p.m.

Ascertain Present Reduced Rates.

Full information from nearest local agent or from GEO. S. BEER, city agent, Nelson, B.C.

W. F. Anderson, Travelling Pass. Agent, Nelson, B.C.

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T. S. GORE. H. BURNET. J. H. McGREGOR

GORE, BURNET & CO.,

Provincial and Dominion Land Surveyors and Civil engineers.

Agents for Obtaining Crown Grants and Abstract of Title to Mineral Claims, &c.

NELSON, - - - British Columbia

GOOD CHEER.

Don't go meeting trouble,
Adding to your load,
For it may go sneaking
Up some other road.
Greet the present pleasure,
Shun the future woe;
Seek the golden sunshine,
Let the shadow go.

If the day is gloomy
Speed it in its flight;
Other days are coming
With their wealth of light.
If the night is clouded,
Stop not to repine;
Other nights are coming
When the stars will shine.

If within the apple
Ugly worm is found,
There are many others
That are sweet and sound.
If one friend proves faithless
And betrays a trust,
There are many others
Loyal, loving, just.

Let a peal of laughter
Banish thoughts of care;
It will help to lighten
Burdens others bear.
Use the word that's kindly
When inclined to chide;
In the heart and memory
It will long abide.

Seek the smoothest pathway
On the road of life,
Cherish sweet contentment,
Keep aloof from strife.
Don't go hunting trouble,
Look for joy instead,
For, when all is over,
Man's a long time dead.

Convict McGuire, a Cobourg man, serving a life sentence in the Kingston penitentiary for attempted murder, has completed a large oil painting of Christ's Ascension, to replace the picture destroyed by fire in the Catholic-chapel of the institution some time ago. It is pronounced a magnificent piece of work.

House-cleaning will soon be here

WE HAVE MANY AIDS TO IT, SUCH AS

PREPARED KALSOMINE,
READY MIXED PAINTS,
OIL WOOD STAINS, ETC.

FULL LINE OF PAINTS, OILS and VARNISHES.

PAINT and VARNISH BRUSHES . . .

LAWRENCE HARDWARE CO.

Telephone 21 Baker St., Nelson.

Merchants' Bank of Halifax

(Incorporated 1869.)

CAPITAL PAID UP, $1,500,000.00 - RESERVE, $1,175,000,00.

Head Office, = Halifax, Nova Scotia.

BRANCHES:

Antigonish, N.S.
Bathurst, N.B.
Bridgewater, N.S.
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Maitland, N.S.
Moncton, N.B.
Montreal, P.Q.
do West End.
do Westmount.
Nanaimo, B.C.
Nelson, B.C.
Newcastle, N.B.
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Vancouver, B.C.
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Weymouth, N.S.
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A General Banking Business Transacted. Sterling Bills of Exchange Bought and Sold. Letters of Credit, Etc., Negotiated.

Accounts Received on the Most Favorable Terms.

Interest allowed on special deposits and on Savings Bank accounts.

BRANCHES IN BRITISH COLUMBIA:

NANAIMO, NELSON, ROSSLAND, VANCOUVER, VICTORIA.

A Savings Bank Department has been established in connection with the Nelson branch of this bank.

Deposits of one dollar and upwards received, and current rate of interest allowed (at present 3 per cent per annum).

GEORGE KYDD, Mgr. Nelson Branch.

A BRITISH COLUMBIA PRODUCT.

Okanagan Flour

Hungarian, XXXX Strong Bakers,
Economy, Superfine, Bran,
Shorts, Chicken Feed, Chop.

The Okanagan Flour Mills Company, Lt'd, Armstrong, B. C.

TURNER, BEETON & CO., AGENTS, NELSON, B. C.

Give this Flour a Trial before passing an opinion.