CALLS THE E. BLUFF — THE HOLD-UP BUSINESS IS STILL BOOMING IN VICTORIA — THE NATAL ACT FAILS TO STOP THE HINDUS

Mr. 14

DEPRECATES EARLY RUSH TO INGENIKA RIVER PLACERS

Mr. Dunlevy, Merchant of Hazelton, Says Camp Is Yet Unproved.

DANGER OF STARVATION.

He Grubstaked Louis Mero, Who Struck Gold at Bedrock.

A RUSH to the scene of the alleged placer strike on the Ingenika River or west fork of the Findlay River in North-central British Columbia, is strongly deprecated by Mr. Karl Dunlevy, a merchant of Hazelton, who is now in this city. Mr. Dunlevy owns a claim there. He has recently sent in two different parties via Hazelton to ascertain the correctness of the recent reports about the existence of rich ground in that district.

"I think the public should be acquainted with all the circumstances," said he to The Province to-day.

"Last spring I grubstaked Louis Mero, a prospector who was going into that region on his own account. He came out last fall via Ashcroft and wintered at Calgary. He is now on his way back to the Ingenika, travelling via Quesnel. He will have to cover a distance of over seven hundred miles. Mero wrote me briefly that he had struck what he supposed to be good ground. He said he reached bed-rock at a depth of eight feet, and had found gold. The letter lacked many details. Mero staked a claim for himself and one for me.

Plans for Large Outfit.

"The indefiniteness of his letter prompted me to co-operate with Mr. Wm. Ellis of this city in sending in two other parties via Hazelton. One of them has been instructed to return to Hazelton about April 1, and wire me the extent of the strike. If the news is favorable we will send in a large outfit with horses and supplies this spring. Mr. Ellis is also represented there by a prospector named Fillmore, whom he sent in over eighteen months ago via Edmonton. It would be unwise for people to rush in there until further particulars have been received. They would be face to face with starvation as there is no surplus of supplies in the region. I don't think the number of men wintering on the Ingenika exceeds six or seven. Mero has two partners in his own layout. They have been spending the winter whip-sawing lumber for the purpose of making sluice boxes. The original discoverers of gold in the district are two Indians and I don't even know whether they have located on the Ingenika or somewhere else."

Ingenika is the West Fork of [illegible] River, and the latter river [illegible] Parsnip, forms the Peace [illegible] country is difficult of access [illegible] Quesnel at this [illegible] In summer time [illegible] made by trail and [illegible] will be obliged

POLITICS SHOULD NOT INTERFERE

Government Informed by Opposition Members that New Railway Commission Should Be Selected on Merits.

Ottawa, March 14.—The bill to enlarge the Railway Commission took up considerable time in the House of Commons yesterday. The bill was read a second time and considered in committee of the whole. Mr. Armstrong feared the Government would choose the three new commissioners from its own party.

Mr. Graham said the salary offered for the position of chief commissioner was perhaps too small. The position was looking for the man, not the man for the position. As to the other positions to be created on the board, the Government was hoping to select men fully qualified without any reference to their politics. He reminded Mr. Armstrong that there was a large number of Independents springing up. (Laughter.)

Mr. Borden argued that the office of chief commissioner called for a man with high qualifications. Mr. Graham said there had only been two applications for the vacant position of chief commissioner. It seemed to have been left entirely in the hands of the Government. He could not say as much about the two other seats on the reorganized board.

Mr. Huggart wanted to know what the cost of the reorganized board would be. The Minister said the present cost would, of course, be considerably increased. Mr. L. M. McCarthy wanted a practical railway man on the board. Mr. Graham submitted this was worthy of consideration. The Railway Commission Bill was permitted to remain in committee for another amendment to be made by the Ministers. Progress was therefore reported.

KAISER'S LETTER WAS NOT OFFENSIVE

Those Who Have Seen Famous Epistle Say It Was Not an Interference with England's Naval Plans.

Berlin, March 14.—A lively correspondence has been in progress between members of the English and German courts since the fact that Emperor William sent a personal letter to Lord Tweedmouth, supposedly concerning the British naval estimates. News has reached the German court that it was King Edward himself who permitted the information about Emperor William's letter to be communicated to the London Times. Unwillingness to publish His Majesty's communication and Lord Tweedmouth's reply was expressed, because it might embarass Lord Tweedmouth. For this reason the Emperor did not give his consent to publication. Copies of the letter, however, have been shown to various persons who are able to say that the letter contained nothing that could be construed

WILL NOT ATTEMPT TO ENFORCE NATAL ACT

Restrictive Immigration Measure Is Dead Pending Hearing of Appeal.

TROUBLE LIKELY SUNDAY.

Dominion Officials Will Probably Clash with Incoming Hindus and C. P. R.

HON. W. J. BOWSER, Attorney-General, to-day announced that pending appeal to the Full Court in the matter of the judgment of Mr. Justice Morrison yesterday that the Natal Act was ultra vires, the operation of the act will be suspended. This suspension will apply no only to Hindus but to all people entering British Columbia from foreign countries because by Mr. Justice Morrison's decision the Natal Act in its entirety is knocked out—for the time being, at least. This declaration on the part of the Attorney-General of the intention of the Government involves a denial of reports published in two Vancouver newspapers that an attempt would still be made to enforce the act pending the appeal to the Full Court.

Every effort is to be made by the Government to hurry on the hearing of the appeal by the Full Court, but owing to the fact that all the members of the Supreme Court bench are now exceedingly busy it is improbable that the Natal Act question can be argued before the sitting of the court in Vancouver on April 7.

Will Admit the Hindus.

To-night or to-morrow some hundred and eighty Hindus are expected to reach Vancouver from Esquimalt, where they were debarked from the C. P. R. steamship Monteagle some time ago because of the presence of smallpox on that vessel when she reached this coast from the Orient. No Natal Act bars the entrance of these men to this province, and the only obstacle in the way of their enjoying perfect freedom here is the order in Council passed some weeks ago by the Dominion Government requiring all immigrants to come direct from the land of their birth or citizenship. The Hindus who arrived on the Monteagle all reached Hongkong direct from Calcutta, being transhipped at the former port to the steamer bound for Vancouver. To prove that they came direct from India to Vancouver the Hindus possess orders from the C. P. R. agents at Calcutta on the agents at Hongkong calling for trans-Pacific transportation.

Might Transfer at Hongkong.

Despite the fact that in previous instances of an exactly similar kind Hindus have been admitted by the Dominion officials, the federal authorities now intend to question the claim of the turbaned men to having made continuous passage. The result may be another clash in the courts, with the Hindus as aggressors and the federal Government on the defensive. The