

IN THE SLOCAN COUNTRY

Men Arriving in Kaslo at the Rate of Over a Hundred a Day.

Nothing Doing There at Present Owing to the Depth of Snow.

A Montana Man Speaks Highly of the Mines, but a Spokane Man Not Favorably Impressed.

Special to The Independent. MISSOULA, April 17.—William Chaney, who formerly owned and ran steamboats on Flathead lake, has just returned from a trip to the Slocan country, where he went to investigate the possibilities of navigation in that vicinity. He went by way of Bonner's Ferry, from which point to Kaslo two steamers are now running, the Nelson and the Spokane. The State of Idaho will be running by the 20th. It is a fast boat and is supplied with electric lights and other modern conveniences. Bonner's Ferry, Mr. Chaney said, is a lively little town, just at present filled up with strangers en route to the Slocan. He thought it probably had a resident population of about 500. There were two hotels, fifteen saloons and four or five stores. The trip by steamer from Bonner's Ferry to Kaslo is a very pleasant one. The distance is about 145 miles and the trip takes ten hours. Seventy miles of this is down the Kootenai river and the balance is on the Kootenai lake. The Kootenai lake is about 100 miles in length and averages six miles in width. Kaslo is near the lower end. The mountains in nearly all places rise precipitously from the water's edge, and there are but three or four places where a steamer could put in in case of storm. A 900-foot line let down failed to touch bottom. Kaslo now has about 3,000 people, but this number is increasing at the rate of over 100 daily. Good meals can be obtained at reasonable rates, but sleeping accommodations are very poor. There are plenty of houses, but no furniture in them. The boat will arrive with 100 passengers aboard, and there will not be an unoccupied bed in the town. A large portion of the steamer's freight will be furniture and bedding, which is immediately removed to houses to accommodate the arrivals that come on the same boat. No saloon licenses are given, but there are nine hotels, all of which have bars. The New Slocan hotel is the largest, having seventy-two rooms. There are several billiard halls where temperance drinks are sold. Those who have been initiated, however, can get a stick in the temperance beverages if so desired. There are also a large number of cigar stores with club rooms in the rear. The exact purpose of the said club rooms is not stated, as according to the laws of the land gambling is not supposed to be tolerated. There are five stores, but the shelves are nearly bare, the goods having been sold nearly as fast as they arrived. Kaslo came very near suffering from a food famine this winter. There is no snow in Kaslo, but a few miles in the mountains it is very deep, owing to snow slides. The one tennis have all been taken off, and the mines will be closed until the snow melts. So Kaslo is full of idle men.

The real estate boom has struck the whole of the Kootenai country. Numerous towns have been platted and lots are being sold in a most extravagant manner, some of which have not a half dozen houses. From \$1,500 to \$5,000 are asked for business lots in Kaslo which could have been bought a few months ago for \$200. It is from twenty to thirty miles from Kaslo to the principal mines. The right of way for a railroad is being cut from Kaslo toward the mines. The shipping privileges are located near the divide between the Kootenai and Slocan lakes. The most prominent ones are the Washington, Wellington, Dardanelles Bank, Noble Five group, Big Berlin, Fred's Lee, Idaho, Silver and Glenn and Ross. The latest map shows fifty-four mines located, and extensions to these will run the number up to about 300, according to the records of the district. The original discoveries were made by Eli Carpenter and Jack Seaton, a little more than a year since. The first ore shipped was from the Dardanelles last July. It was ten tons, and after paying all packing, smelting and freight charges netted \$5,000. New Denver is on the Slocan lake at the mouth of Carpenter creek, and about the same distance as Kaslo from the mines. Slocan lake is about fifteen miles long, but the Slocan river below the lake is not navigable. There is a small steamer on the lake. The Lardo and Duncan river countries are attracting considerable attention. The Lardo country is about eighteen miles north of Kaslo. The Duncan is a fork of this stream, coming in twelve miles from its mouth. The town of Lardo is on the lake, at the mouth of the river, and Duncan City is at the fork. By blowing out logs the river will be navigable to the forks. The Golden Eagle and Caribou mines, on the Lardo, are located about fifteen miles from Duncan City. They are gold quartz and a small vein of silver. They were located by Sam Forbes, formerly a resident of Missoula. Forbes had his standard discovered and three or four claims broken by a snowslide coming out last winter. The government is now engaged in building a trail from Lardo to the upper Kootenai lake, the outlet and inlet of which is the Duncan river. This lake is about twenty miles long and the mountains rise nearly perpendicularly from the water's edge on all sides. It is thought that a navigable channel can be made from the lower to the upper Kootenai lake. Numerous claims have been located on both the Lardo and Duncan rivers, but little or no development work has been done on them. Considerable high grade gold quartz is said to have been discovered. There have been placer mines worked in the section for a number of years. The most of the prospectors and business men in the whole Kootenai lake country are citizens of the United States. There is not nearly as large a proportion of Canadians as on this side of the line. The laws are liberal, but do not allow one person to locate more than one claim on a ledge more than two claims in a district, but when he has sold a claim he has the privilege of locating another. A mine's license is required of every person prospecting or working in mines. A mine's license gives the holder a right to kill game and fish at all seasons of the year. The license costs \$5, and the revenue tax which must be obtained with it is \$3. Without a license a person is not allowed to hunt, fish or cut both sides unless the miner has one. The law gives no protection in the collection of wages. This is true at any occupation, mining or otherwise. In fact it is very difficult to engage in any kind of business without a license. The license is issued by an officer called a gold commissioner, and the mining recorders under him. The gold commissioner is a little notorious with a license, unless it is paid for. He settles all disputes to wages, and collection of the same. Kaslo itself is a typical American mining town, in which the people are nearly all Americans and the civil officers from the constable up to the Englishman. Old-timers of early mining excitement of California, Nevada and Montana have been considerably impressed with the prospect of rich gold veins which figure so much in the

Highest of all in Leavening Power.—Latest U. S. Gov't Report.

Baking Powder ABSOLUTELY PURE

early history of many camps in the United States.

FROM ANOTHER POINT OF VIEW. S. T. Johnston says the Slocan is a Good Place for Poor Men to Avail.

Special to The Independent. SPOKANE, April 17.—A good number of prospectors and people looking for business locations are already flocking back from the Slocan country, having ascertained that they were too early in the field. Many express the belief that the country has been viciously over-boomed by townsite promoters, speculators and the railroads, and that the extent of the mineral bodies does not warrant such general excitement. S. T. Johnston, a mining man of some prominence in the early days at Leadville, says he has not so much confidence in the new camp as he had before his recent visit there. Mr. Johnston has made a special study of the mineralogical conditions indicating permanence in caldera veins, and he declares that the several prospects in the Slocan which he examined do not promise improvement as depth is gained. Many will inevitably "pinch out" altogether a few feet below the surface. Of course this does not argue that the camp will not be a good one, for it has been the experience of all mining camps, with the notable exception of the Aspen, Col., group and the Clear Fork of the Colorado, that the ore deteriorates with depth; but the frantic clamor of the British-American becomes to the effect that Slocan mines are inexhaustible and enormously rich, is misleading and apt to prove disappointing to the future visitor. Mr. Johnston states that there is little employment for labor in that section, living is expensive, there are hundreds of men already there out of work and out of money; and on the whole it is a good country for poor men to stay away from.

BLOOMING SPRING.

Brings Blooming Business at Fowles' Cash Store, 194-199 Broadway.

Our stores now brimful of bargains. Every department is full of new spring goods, bought for cash at wonderfully low prices. We are selling them, too. If you don't believe this, come and see the crowds of buyers, and ten chances to one you will join the procession.

EMBROIDERY SALE. It is a well known fact that we carry the largest assortment, finest goods, and sell the same lower than any house in the city. Our general stock of embroideries include every desirable style and quality.

Commencing Monday, April 17, we will place our entire stock on special sale for one week at the following special prices: 50c. embroideries for 35c. 10c. and 12c. embroideries for 6c. 15c. embroideries for 10c. 20c. and 25c. embroideries for 15c. 30c. embroideries for 20c. 35c. embroideries for 25c. 40c. and 45c. embroideries for 30c. 50c. embroideries for 35c. 65c. embroideries for 50c. 75c. embroideries for 60c. \$1.00 embroideries for 75c.

Many are doing their shopping through the medium of our mail department. Why not you? Fowles' Cash Store.

The Best Ever in the World. The products of the William J. Lamp Brewing company are known throughout the world. "The Lamp" is a household word, for it is used by more families than any other brand; it is the most popular beverage because it possesses a pure flavor and holds its freshness, qualities which other brewers have never been able to successfully counterfeit. The people of Helena will be glad to know that the Lamp brand can be purchased at the local company's agency, the well known house of I. Marks. Special attention is directed to the "extra pale" and "extra export" two brands that challenge the world for excellence. The trade will be supplied promptly and satisfactorily, and family orders will receive special care.

JOTTINGS ABOUT TOWN.

The street commissioner yesterday put on a number of teams to clean up the alleys and assist the garbage contractor.

An interesting programme will be rendered at the Unity club concert at 7. A. R. Hall, on Friday evening, April 21. A number of well known amateurs take part.

The ladies of the Frances E. Willard Women's Christian Temperance union will have a social to-night at the residence of Mrs. Joseph Curran, 1336 Bozeman street.

The steamer Lardo expects to be away on her first trip to the Gates the Monday morn on May 1. The crisis of the Lawrence dam have been carried down the Missouri to near Craig.

The bids for the care and keeping of the state convicts at Deer Lodge will be opened on Thursday. It is expected that there will be about twenty bidders, including the present contractors.

The ladies of the Lewis and Clarke Columbian association met yesterday, and decided to solicit subscriptions to help pay the deficit in the cost of the fountain. A letter from Mrs. Len A. Howay at Chicago stated that the Lewis and Clarke fountain had been given a good location in the woman's building. The association is about \$20 short on the fountain.

E. J. Williams, writing from Winnemucca, Nev., to Tom McTague of Deer Lodge, says the mare Zora has dropped a fine colt by Eddin. The youngster is of a chestnut color, and Williams says he gives promise of being a fine colt. Zora was the last mare of the set day of the meeting here last autumn, and will be remembered by those who backed her, as well as by those who backed some of the others.

Chansey Stubbs, son of Street Commissioner Stubbs, was accidentally shot in the leg on Sunday afternoon by the discharge of a gun in the hands of Reinhold Klenschmidt, 35. The young man was running near the Missouri river, and on the way to the boat the gun Klenschmidt was carrying went off accidentally, the charge lodging in Stubbs' leg below the knee. He was taken to a ranch and received medical attention.

Willie Bubba pleaded guilty before Judge Gage yesterday to entering the Opera House saloon and stealing \$1.50 and a revolver. He denied the greater charge of burglary, and claimed that the fact that he was drunk and him to commit the robbery. Judge Gage held the matter under advisement, and will commit County Attorney Nolan as to the grade of the offense. If it is declared to be burglary the case will have to go to court. (The wine it will be delivered for Saturday and it is a sentence imposed.)

The Maryville Odd Fellows will celebrate with appropriate ceremonies the seventy-fourth anniversary of the establishment of the order on April 28. There will be literary exercises in the afternoon at the hall in Marysville and a public address by D. Vincent Knight, of Helena, on "Odd Fellowship, its growth and attainments over similar organizations." This will be followed by a banquet and ball at night. All Odd Fellows have been invited to assist in the public demonstration and ball.

PERSONAL.

Dr. C. F. Meisigrod is over from Warm Springs. Mrs. H. P. Kennett has returned home from a visit to New York.

John W. Thompson returned home yesterday after a delightful visit to California. E. C. Boon, of Hon. T. C. Baell's law office, returned yesterday from a short trip to the east.

Thos. McTague, of Deer Lodge, is in the city, on his regular monthly trip to see the city, on his accounts as warden of the penitentiary. Duncan A. McDonald has resigned as director and treasurer of the Helena Athletic club and will leave for Chicago during the coming week.

Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Paulson leave to-day for Brooklyn, N. Y. They will take the remains of Mrs. Wilson, Mrs. Paulson's mother, to Danville, N. Y., their old home. A. M. Thornburgh returned Sunday after a long and pleasant trip to New York and eastern cities. He met many Montanians and heard many good things from eastern investors about Helena.

Mrs. James W. Eastin, with her children, Earl, Kelly and Paulina Eastin, left yesterday over the Union Pacific for a visit to friends and relatives in Indiana, Ohio and Tennessee. They will also see the World's Fair. J. Duncan, Boston, Mass., John Wedebrook, Rock Island, Ill., S. Heine, New York; Stephen Walsh, Eldora, Iowa; Chas. Lee, Indianapolis; E. F. Elwood, Chicago; C. N. Lyman, St. Paul; Perry Westfield, St. Louis, were among the departures via the Northern Pacific yesterday.

Dr. Carl Schultze went yesterday to Hamilton with Joe Putman, who has been here during the last three months under the doctor's treatment. Mr. Putman was perfectly blind when he came here, but now enjoys a fair sight and has a good chance for further improvement. He is one of the most highly respected citizens of Ravalli county and his many friends hope that this cure will permanently end a suffering of over twenty years duration.

Arrivals at the Helena. Louis Meyers, New B. C. Kingsbury, Spokane; P. J. Clark, Spokane; C. H. Holdridge, St. Paul; J. H. Strauss, Omaha; W. C. Carter, Lincoln; J. D. Hamilton, Chicago; Delacy Stone, New York; F. H. Newell, Jay Gould; G. L. Havens, Denver; Harry Hardy, New York; W. H. Murphy, Ovando; S. C. Bush, Avon; F. W. Gattie, Helena; D. B. McKilloan, Marysville; John Larson, Marysville; Mrs. J. Brown, Drummond; Miss Mary H. Belmont, Miss Edie Shields, Drummond; C. G. Birdseye, Avon; G. W. Barrow, Chinook; J. F. Faulkner, St. Paul; T. A. Williams, Glendive; C. W. Reynolds, Placer; C. T. Wyatt, Denver; A. S. Mason, Avon; John Duffy, Silver; Wm. Waldman, New Chicago; J. E. Chardon, Avon; Jean Frog, White Sulphur; F. B. Thorwald, Minnapha; P. Perry Jay Gould, Paul.

Arrivals at the Grand Central.

James H. Mitchell, Elk River; C. Hathaway, Missoula; J. P. Airey, Choteau; H. H. Kotinus, Marysville; J. J. Davis, Marysville; Miss Mary H. Belmont, Marysville; John Shaw, St. Louis; C. G. Birdseye, Avon; Joe Smith, St. Louis; J. S. Hunstain, Minnapha; H. H. Brown, Nevada; J. W. Rogers, Placer; John Giesson, Wolf Creek; G. H. Godfrey, Denver; J. P. Bennett, Marysville; E. J. Smith, Helena; Jean Frog, White Sulphur; Chas. B. Gough, Minnapha; W. H. Murphy, Ovando; S. C. Bush, Avon; F. W. Gattie, Helena; D. B. McKilloan, Marysville; John Larson, Marysville; Mrs. J. Brown, Drummond; Miss Edie Shields, Drummond; C. G. Birdseye, Avon; G. W. Barrow, Chinook; J. F. Faulkner, St. Paul; T. A. Williams, Glendive; C. W. Reynolds, Placer; C. T. Wyatt, Denver; A. S. Mason, Avon; John Duffy, Silver; Wm. Waldman, New Chicago; J. E. Chardon, Avon; Jean Frog, White Sulphur; F. B. Thorwald, Minnapha; P. Perry Jay Gould, Paul.

The Grandon.

The only first-class European hotel in the city. Has the best rooms, all modern conveniences, with cafe in the building. Corner Sixth avenue and Warren street, J. J. Rohrbach, manager. Rapid transit electric cars pass the door.

Full line of toys at The Bee Hive.

Killed in a Collision.

FARWELL, Mich., April 17.—A collision occurred on the Toledo, Ann Arbor & No. 10th Michigan road about four miles north this morning between a working and north-bound passenger. Two men were killed, several badly injured, and one is missing. None of the passengers were injured. The men killed are: J. W. Unger, of Owosso, and Isaac Kinscholt, of Owosso. The injured are: Frank Thompson, of Elsie, thigh broken and otherwise injured, may die; O. S. Cronthers, of Owosso, and James Pickering, of Farwell, badly bruised. Several others, laborers, were slightly bruised and cut.



KNOWLEDGE

Brings comfort and improvement and tends to personal enjoyment when rightly used. The many, who live better than others and enjoy life more, with less expenditure, by more promptly adapting the world's best products to the needs of physical being, will attest the value to health of the pure liquid laxative principles embraced in the remedy, Syrup of Figs. Its excellence is due to its presenting in the form most acceptable and pleasant to the taste, the refreshing and truly beneficial properties of a perfect laxative; effectually cleansing the system, dispelling colds, headaches and fevers and permanently curing constipation. It has given satisfaction to millions and met with the approval of the medical profession because it acts on the Kidneys, Liver and Bowels without weakening them and it is perfectly free from every objectionable substance. Syrup of Figs is for sale by all druggists in 50c and \$1 bottles, but it is manufactured by the California Fig Syrup Co. only, whose name is printed on every package, also the name, Syrup of Figs, and being well informed, you will not accept any substitute if offered.

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\$4.95 PER PATTERN. The great success of the Special Two Dollar Dress Pattern Sale, inaugurated by us last week, has induced us to present this week another genuine bargain offering, in handsome All-Wool Dress Patterns, at Four Ninety-Five. The assortment embraces Fine All-Wool Scotch Cheviots, in Fancy Mixtures, Checks, Stripes, Plaids, Diagonals and Changeable Twills, in Tan, Grey, Brown, Blue and Green. The very latest effects and warranted pure wool. The entire line for this week at \$4.95 per pattern.

Also, as a Special Bargain in our Cloak Department, we place on sale a line of Ladies' Cloth Capes, in Green and Navy Blue, at \$4.00 EACH. Inspection Invited. Store Open Evenings Till 8:30. SANDS BROS.

BABCOCK'S Mackintosh Coats. THOROUGHLY RELIABLE. WARRANTED WATERPROOF. SEWED AND CEMENTED SEAMS. Every Garment Guaranteed. BABCOCK & CO.

Peterson Hotel MARYSVILLE, MONT. Thoroughly renovated and now run in first-class style in every respect. F. E. THIEME, MANAGER.

Waukenhose. The New Stocking. Outwears the old shape. Doesn't deform the foot. Saves discomfort. Saves darning. Waukenhose Co., Boston, Mass. Boston Clothing Co., 23-25 Main Street.

To Loan Money at 7%, 8%, and 9%. Amount of Loan and Security determine the rate of interest. I am prepared to make loans promptly in amounts from \$500 to \$100,000. \$100,000 Commercial and Short Time notes wanted. Also City, School, State and County Bonds and Warrants. No. 10 Edwards St., Helena, Mont. H. B. PALMER.

JUST RECEIVED. A few thousand pounds, fresh and clean, Alfalfa Seed and Timothy Seed. Also a large shipment of Vick's Celebrated Flower Seeds. H. M. PARCHEN & CO. CORNER DRUG STORE.

U. S. Public Sampling Co. HELENA, MONTANA. ASSAYERS AND ORE SAMPLERS. Most Complete Plant of the Kind in Montana. Our facilities for Handling and Disposing of Ores Are Unsurpassed. ASSAY OFFICE: Corner Grand and Jackson Streets. SAMPLING MILL: At N. P. and M. C. Railroad Crossing.

THE PERFECT PURITY AND SOLUBILITY OF VanHouten's Cocoa. BEST AND GOES FARTHEST. permit of its instantaneous preparation and render it Highly Digestible and Nutritious.