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Every Tuesday Evening

All members of the order in the

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Meets 1st and 3rd Thursdays at 7

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Lot 32, Block 3, \$450; 1-3 cash,

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PRINCE RUPERT'S THIN LINE
OF COMMUNICATION WITH THE
CENTRES OF SOUTH AND EASTWonders of the Telegraph Wire Which Keeps Rupert in Touch
With the Doings of the World Without---Work of Supt.J. T. Phelan, Now in the District, and His
Phalanx of Able Assistants

In the district at present on one of his periodical trips of inspection is Telegraph Superintendent Phelan, who looks after the thread of wire which keeps Prince Rupert in touch with the south and the centres of Canada, like an over wrought but marvellously enduring nerve.

One of the little known and seldom heard of services of the Dominion government, which, however, has been a vital factor in the building up of the northern portions of British Columbia and the Yukon Territory, is the telegraph line, of which Mr. J. T. Phelan of Vancouver is superintendent.

Battle with the Wild.

The government line covers a territory which the ordinary commercial companies would never think twice about operating in, not only because the business originating there is small, but because the difficulties to be encountered in installing and maintaining a service are so manifold and ceaseless that the keeping open of the line for communication settles down to one continuous grim battle with the elements; fire in the summer months, wind in the equinoctial seasons of spring and fall and snow all the long winter.

Rupert's Own Wire.

The Dominion government maintains telegraph service in the Lower St. Lawrence and the Maritime provinces, a small service in Ontario and a large number of comparatively small services in different parts of British Columbia, the total revenues of which for the fiscal year 1910-11 amounted to \$169,585.15. Of this amount the Ashcroft-Daw-

son services contributed no less than \$119,065.98 revenue.

The main line runs from Ashcroft to the International Boundary below Dawson, a distance of \$2,500 miles. A branch goes from Ashcroft to Lillooet, some being made this year of 70 miles to reach the pioneer mining camps along Cadwallader Creek. Another branch extends from 150 Mile House to Quesnelle Forks, and a branch of 60 miles from Quesnelle to Barkerville. The branch line connecting with Prince Rupert and Port Simpson leaves the main line at Hazelton, and is 200 miles in extent. Half way on this branch, at Kitsumkalum River, is the point where the line to Stewart starts, its distance being 175 miles. In the Yukon district there is a branch line from Hootling to Livingstone Creek, a distance of 75 miles. A new branch is being constructed this summer from Bella Coola, on the coast, through the Chilcooten district to connect with the 150 Mile House station on the Cariboo road.

Hard Worked Staff of Athletes. This service gives employment to approximately four hundred men, linemen and operators. They could keep a large number more fully occupied if the exigencies of economy did not enter into the question. But as expenses have to be kept down, and the individuals attracted to that kind of life are satisfied to work on a basis equivalent to nine days or more a week, they all manage to do nicely. It is not the money that attracts the government operators and linemen to this telegraph service, but the savage satisfaction of having placed in their hands a small section of the wilderness over which they may

have authority so long as they maintain it in a proper state of subjection.

Enemies of the Service.

If they cannot keep their section of the line open for communication they know they are not fit to rule. For the wilderness is always fighting back. The wind topples over trees and carry down both wire and poles. Forest fires spring up out of nothing and lash up and down the northern valleys, and the snow fed streams from the mountains are likely to become raging torrents overnight to carry away not only the telegraph poles and other appliances but stations as well. In the winter the snow is a still more persistent enemy.

Fearful Exertions Faced Coolly.

Every man has his own section of line to look after and keep in repair. A trail is cut when the construction of the line is done, and it is up to the linemen to keep this trail open. If the line crosses a stream, the linemen must have it bridged, and this he does cunningly with trees balanced on the cantilever system, for the watercourse which he can wade across ankle deep this morning is likely to be twenty feet deep and with a current racing forty miles an hour before he returns at night. No canoe could ever stem the raging waters, and his fragile, swaying bridge is his only sure method of fording the stream at all times. In the winter time snowshoes are used. The distances which the linemen have in charge vary with the nature of the country, the smallest being about seventeen miles and the longest, on the open prairie country where a horse can be used for riding, fifty miles.

CANADA'S
COASTWISE
SHIPPING

Ottawa, June 25—The volume of Canadian shipping shows a steady though not marked increase, according to figures for the last year just completed. The total number of vessels in the service is 8,087, an increase of 183 over last year. The aggregate net tonnage is 770,446 as against 751,929 last year, an increase of 19,517. The number of seamen, men and boys, engaged is 41,447.

TO BUILD MONUMENT FOR ILL FATED TITANIC OPERATOR
London, July 24—Nearly \$2,000 has been subscribed today toward a fund, organized by the mayor of Godalming, to provide a suitable memorial in his home town to Jack Phillips, the wireless operator who went down with the Titanic. The memorial is to take the form of a drinking fountain, to be placed in a prominent position on the main road in full view of travellers between London and Brighton, and to be surrounded by a small park.

A number of contributions to this fund have come from admirers of the heroic operator in America.

St. Louis, July 24—Three Edwardsville surgeons worked half an hour Monday, and performed an operation in "major surgery" to save the life of "Willie," a valuable black Angora cat, which had broken both its left legs in a fall of 45 feet.

They chloroformed the cat, drilled the bones, laced the broken ends together with silver wire and tied the legs up in splints.

Good conduct does not pay as well as you may think the good book says it does; but you may depend on this: it pays better than bad conduct.

BRUTAL MURDER OF LABORER
CHARGED AGAINST FOREMAN
AT C.N.R. RAILWAY CAMP

Ashcroft, July 24—Saturday afternoon what appears to be a cruel murder was committed in a C.N.R. camp across the Thomson river, directly opposite this place.

From what can be learned, an Italian laborer, who was dismissed Friday for some cause came back to the camp for his time cheque, when, for apparently no reason, he was attacked, it is alleged, by an Irish foreman named Barney Mulligan, who terribly slashed the face and neck of the unfortunate laborer, who died from loss of blood in about twenty-five or thirty minutes. Had the knife not struck the victim's jawbone, the head would have been completely decapitated. The body was brought to town on Saturday evening, when a coroner's inquest was held.

The coroner's jury found that the Italian died from wounds in the neck inflicted with a large butcher's knife, and returned a verdict of wilful murder against Barney Mulligan. The preliminary hearing is now proceeding. The prisoner is in jail here.

Best meal in town at Savoy.

BRITAIN IS
INCREASING
HER NAVY

London, July 24—Introducing the supplementary naval estimates in the Commons today, Secretary Churchill announced that Great Britain intends to increase her shipbuilding program for the next five years to twenty-one Dreadnaughts, five the first year, and four annually afterwards. Fifteen hundred men will be added to the personnel of the navy this year.

Mr. Churchill declared that 33 Dreadnaughts will be in commission in 1914, as against Germany's 29. Work on 8 cruisers is to be hastened and eight battleships will be constantly kept in the Mediterranean.

Best meal in town at Savoy.

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Block 2, Lots 1 and 2, \$18,000. Terms—\$6500 cash, bal. one and two years at 7 per cent.

Both are double corners on lane and \$4000 has been spent on grading them.

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G. A. Sweet, Manager.

GOOD BUYS

SECTION ONE.
Lot 31, Block 16, \$9,500; buildings; Market Place.
Lot 15, Block 33, \$12,000; buildings; Fraser Street.
Lot 16, Block 11, \$17,500; facing G. T. P. depot.

SECTION FIVE.
Lots 16-17, Block 17, \$2,100; level; on Seventh Avenue.
Lots 1-2, Block 9, \$5,000; large double corner on Fifth Avenue.

SECTION SIX.
Lot 15, Block 25, \$4,100; buildings; near school, on Eighth Avenue.
Lot 18, Block 28, \$1,300; good; level; Eighth Avenue, near McBride.

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