

CLONDYKE

Boundary Line Changed.

Canadian Geographers Get in Their Work.

NEW YORK, August 2.—A special to the Tribune from Washington says:

The claim of Great Britain to a big share of Alaska promises to occupy a large amount of public attention for some time to come, if, indeed it does not become a vital question and give rise to diplomatic complications between the United States and England. The claim is regarded by government officials here as preposterous. The senate, when the boundary question was brought before it, as the result of a treaty negotiated by Secretary Olney and Sir Julian Pauncefote, did not place itself on record in the matter, however, for before a vote was taken congress adjourned, so that the location of the divisional line which has been in dispute since 1884, is no nearer settlement than it has been at any period in the last 13 years.

General Duffield, superintendent of the coast and geodetic survey, was a member of the boundary commission. The survey authorized by it has until recently been deemed official and correct by both countries. General Duffield said:

"Up to 1884 both countries were practically united as to the boundary line from Mount St. Elias to the southeast. According to the terms of the treaty between Russia and Great Britain, the United States in purchasing Alaska in 1867 acquired all of Russia's rights. In describing the southeastern boundary the Russian treaty read: 'The line of demarcation between the possessions of the high contracting powers upon the coast of the continent and the islands of America to the northwest should be drawn in the following manner: Commencing from the southernmost of the land called Prince of Wales land, which point lies in the parallel of 54 degrees 40 minutes north latitude and between the 131st degree and 133rd degree of west longitude, the same line shall ascend to the north along the channel called Portland channel as far as the point of the continent where it strikes the 56th degree of north latitude. From this last mentioned point the line of demarcation shall follow the summit of the mountains situated parallel to the coast as far as the point of intersection of the 141st degree of west longitude of the same meridian, and finally from the said point of intersection on the 141st degree in its prolongation as far as the frozen ocean, shall form the limit between the Russian and British possessions on the continent of America to the northwest.'"

"Whatever the summit of the mountains which extend in the direction parallel to the point of intersection of the 141st degree of west longitude shall prove to be a distance of more than 10 marine leagues from the ocean, the limit between the British possessions and the line of coast which is to belong to Russia as above mentioned shall be formed by a line parallel to the winding of the coast and which shall never exceed the distance of 10 marine leagues therefrom."

"On all maps from 1827 to 1884 the boundary line has been in general terms parallel to the winding of the coast, and 35 miles from it. In 1884, however, one of the Canadian maps showed a marked deflection of this line at its south end. Instead of passing up Portland channel, the Canadian map showed the boundary as passing up the Behm canal, an arm of the sea 60 or 70 miles west of Portland channel, this change having been made on the bare assertion that the words 'Portland canal' as inserted were erroneous. By this change an area of American territory about equal in size to the state of Connecticut was transferred to British territory."

"There are three facts which go to show that this map was incorrect. In the first place, the British admiralty, when surveying the northern limit of the British Columbia possessions in 1868, surveyed Portland canal and not Behm canal, and thus by implication admitted this canal to the boundary line."

"Second, the region now claimed by British Columbia was at that time occupied as a military post of the United States without objection or protest on the part of British Columbia."

"Third, Anette island, in this region, was by act of congress four years ago, set apart as a reservation for the use of the Metlakatla Indians, who sought an asylum under the American flag to escape annoyances experienced under the British flag."

"Another change was made at Lynn canal, the northernmost extension of the Alexander archipelago, which runs north of Juneau, and is the land outlet of the Yukon trade. If the official Canadian map of 1884 carried the boundary line around this canal, another Canadian map, three years later, carried the line across the head of the canal in such a manner as to throw its headwaters into this rich territory. Still later Canadian maps carried the line, not across the head of the canal, but across near its mouth, some 70 miles south of the former line, in such a way as practically to take in Juneau, or at least all overland immediately back of it, and the last Canadian map, while it runs no line at all southeast of Alaska, prints the legend 'British Columbia' over portions of Lynn canal, now administered by the United States."

"A recent report of the United States surveyors as to the boundary line in this connection said: 'In substance these determinations throw the diggings at the mouth of Forty-Mile creek within the territory of the United States. The whole valley of this rich creek is also in the United States. Most of the gold is to the west of the crossing of the 141st meridian at Forty-Mile creek. If we produce the 141st meridian on a chart the mouth of Miller's creek, a tributary of Sixty-Mile creek, and a valuable gold region, is five miles in a direct line, or seven miles according to the winding of the stream, all within the territory of the United States. In substance, the only places in the Yukon region where gold in quantities has been found are all to the west of the boundary line between Canada and the United States.'"

"It can readily be seen that the claim of the United States is directly opposed to that of the Canadians. It is true that the arbitration of the 141st meridian was favored by the United States surveyors, but some of them were amazed at the claims of the English with regard to Lynn creek, not canal, and the whole southeastern boundary and expressed the belief that the United States would refuse to arbitrate the claims of this portion of the boundary."

Action Must Be Postponed.

Nothing can be done more than has already been done toward marking the boundary line between Alaska and the British Possessions along the 141st meridian until the senate has passed upon the boundary treaty, now

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before it. There is, however, no doubt of the location of the line along this meridian, the people in the locality know where it is.

The work of demarcation will be superintended by General Duffield, in charge of the geodetic survey on behalf of the United States. He expresses the opinion that a railroad can be easily constructed from Taku inlet to the Clondyke gold fields and believes the enterprise is well worth undertaking.

UNION PARTY PLATFORM

Adopted at Albany, Oregon, June 3, 1897.

We demand the free and unlimited coinage of gold and silver at the ratio of 16 to 1 independent of the action of any other nation. That the government shall issue all money without the intervention of banks, and in quantity adequate to the needs of the people. That all money issued by the government, whether gold, silver or paper, shall be legal tender for all debts, public or private.

That no contract or law shall discriminate against any kind of money issued by the government.

We are opposed to the issue of United States interest-bearing bonds in time of peace.

We demand the redemption of Oregon from rings, commissions and corrupt methods, and demand honest elections and election laws, including stringent registration laws.

We demand that the people shall have the veto power over all legislative enactments by the use of the referendum.

We demand the election of all officers by a direct vote of the people.

We favor and advise that all nominations for municipal and county officers, including members of the legislature, shall be made by primary elections.

We recommend that this party shall be known as the Union party, and invite all reform forces of the state to unite with us in realizing these principles by united efforts, and we pledge ourselves to unite with such reform forces in carrying out this bond of union.

THE MARKETS.

PROVISIONS.

Portland, Aug. 2. Wheat valley, 75c; Walla Walla, 73c.

Flour—Portland, 3.75; superfine, 2.25 per barrel.

Oats—White, 38c; grey, 37c; 39c.

Potatoes—New, 50c per ton.

Hay—Good, 10c; 13.50 per ton.

Hops—10c; 11c.

Wool—Valley, 11c; Eastern Oregon, 7c.

Mohair, 10c; 20c.

Millstuffs, Bran, 13.50; shorts, 15.50.

Poultry—Chickens, mixed, 2.75; 3.45.

Broilers, 1.50; 3.50; turkeys, live, 10c.

Eggs—Oregon, 14c per dozen.

Hides—green, salted, 60c; under, 60c; 5c; sheep pelts, 10c; 7c.

Onions—2c per sack.

Wheat—California, 25c per 100.

Beans—small white, 1 1/2c; 1 1/4c; 3/4c.

Hogs—Heavy, 4.00.

Butter—Best dairy, 25c; fancy cream, 35c; 40c.

Cheese—12c.

Dried Fruit—Apples, evaporated, bleached, 6 1/2c; 7c; unbleached, 3 1/2c; 4c; sundried, 5 1/2c.

Pears—5c; 6c.

Plums—10c; 12c.

Prunes—4 1/2c; 5c.

Vinal—small, 4 1/2c; large, 3 1/2c; 4c; 4 1/2c.

Mutton—Weathers, 22c; dressed, 1 1/2c; 1 1/4c; spring lambs, 5 1/2c per lb.

Beef—Steers, 3c; cows, 2.25.

Dressed, 4 1/2c.

Cured Meats—Hams, 10 1/2c; 10 1/4c; bacon, 7 1/2c; 8c; 10c.

Lard—in pails, 7 1/2c.

SALEM MARKET.

Wheat—67c.

Oats, 34c.

Hay—Baled, chest, 56c.

Flour—in wholesale lots, 3.80; retail, 4.20; bran, bulk, 12c; shorts, 15.50; 17.75; chop, feed, 15.00; 16.00.

Poultry—Chickens, 5c; spring, 10c.

Millstuffs, 4.50.

Live Cattle, 2.25c.

Sheep—Live, 1.50.

Spring lambs, \$1.00.

Wool—Best, 12c.

Hops—Best, 9c; 10c.

Eggs—10c in trade.

Farm Smoked Meats—Bacon, 7c; hams, 10c; shoulders, 5 1/2c.

Potatoes, 25c trade.

Dried Fruit—Apples, evaporated, bleached, 7c; 8c; unbleached, 4c; 5c.

Plums—4c.

Butter—Dairy, 12 1/2c; creamery, 15c; 20c.

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