

Newspapers and Magazines 1900s

*The Daily Province,
Vancouver BC.
3 April 1906*

The Slumach legend seems not born yet in 1906 and the old man in the story could well refer to "Jackson."

BURIED TREASURE AT PITT LAKE.
IT IS LIKELY THERE YET
WONDERFUL MACHINE FOR WHICH QUARTER OF A MIL-
LION IS OFFERED TOLD OF IN COUNTY COURT
WEALTH OF DRAMATIC INCIDENT AROSE OUT OF COM-
MONPLACE CASE.

Buried treasure, placer claims at Pitt Lake, a dead man's directions, and a machine which takes its motive power from some mysterious source, and which was referred to as a "perpetual motion" plant, figured in the trial of the action of Judd vs. Drummond, which was heard yesterday before His Honor Judge Henderson.

The case started out as a rather commonplace one in which the plaintiff claimed \$625, being \$100 which he had paid to defendant on account of an option on some Howe Sound timber, \$25 for expenses and \$500 for commission had the timber turned out to be such that plaintiff could have made a sale of it. The defendant counter-claimed because of some alleged misrepresentations in respect to buried treasure or placer claims, and the case rapidly assumed the characteristics of a dime novel but the hero somehow did not manage to connect with the goods, which was the only dramatic lack in the whole affair.

Gold Under a Rock.

The buried treasure and the placer claims which are mixed up in the case were supposed to be situated somewhere on a creek which ran into Pitt Lake, but though Drummond and the men who he alleged induced him to go on the search, scoured the country for eleven or thirteen days, they did not get the stuff or the claims. Albert Warren, now a gardener, once a prospector, who was a witness who told about the expedition to stake the placer and recover the dead man's nuggets. It all had a romantic ring and auditors in the court held their breath and dreamed of millions while Mr. Warren rambled through his tale.

Dead Man Spoke.

It would appear that some man by the name of Frazier secured information that an old man, who was ere this been gathered in his rest, had some valuable placer ground in the Pitt Lake country. He had recovered \$8000 in gold nuggets, and these he had hidden under a rock. He had then passed away, but had left directions where the treasure and the placer ground was to be found. Finally these came to the hands of the plaintiff Judd, who had in turn passed them on to a man named Meldrum and to Albert Warren. They

**Buried Treasure at Pitt
Lake**

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decided on certain advice to have the wealth and made a deal with defendant Drummond for the use of his steamer in order that they might get to Pitt Lake ahead of another party which was stampeding to the treasure ground. Drummond was to put up the boat while Meldrum and the others were to supply the grub. Everything went well with the expedition except that the placer ground could not be found; the hidden treasure was not to be located, and the entire party had a very rough trip as the weather was rainy, and sleeping out did not remind one of dreams between Dutch feather beds.

Mr. G.T. Rogers' Offer.

The machine which is referred to as being something novel in the way of a power producer or gatherer, and which had been referred to as a "perpetual motion" affair, was not dragged into the trial in great detail, but a letter was filed as an exhibit which tended to show that the owners of the patent regard it as a very valuable piece of mechanism. Indeed the letter declares that the manager of the British Columbia Sugar Refining Company had made an offer of \$250,000 for the plant. The inventor is a local man called Marshall, and the machine is declared by parties not interested in the trial to be a wonder. The inventor and his friends are said to be keeping the invention quiet though they are interesting local capital in it to a small extent. It is declared by a person who has seen a working model that the machine is a simple-appearing affair which draws its power from no one knows where, there being only one rod pointing into the boundless ether, and the other hitting the ground.

Mr. J.A. Russell, for the plaintiff, Judd, submitted his argument and was followed by Mr. F.C. Wade, K.C. for the defendant.

His Honor Judge Henderson found that the claim could not be substantiated, and he dismissed the action with costs. He also dismissed the defendants counter claim, but he allowed costs against the defendant for two witnesses on their counter claim for one day.
