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without the consent of the Province, and demands that said mail service be established forthwith.

Abrams & McLean, clothing, Vancouver, have opened a branch establishment in the same place.

Capt. Mellon has been appointed agent at Vancouver, for the North British and Mercantile Fire Insurance Co.

Granville & Co., real estate brokers, Vancouver, have dissolved, F. Roberts retiring. A new partnership has been formed under the same name by Frank Granville and George H. Mott.

The business of the C. P. R. steamship line between China and Japan and Vancouver has increased so much that two additional steamers, the Zambesi and the Adelaide, have been chartered.

Western Notes.

McNaughton of Rat Portage, will open a lumber yard at Killarney, Man.

Portage la Prairie, Man., has resumed municipal government, under the bill lately passed by the Legislature. The mayor and council were elected by acclamation.

A Washington special of Thursday says: Mr. Nelson reported to the House to-day a bill to allow the Duluth and Winnipeg road right of way through the Fon du Lac reservation. The report says the road will be built from Duluth northwesterly to strike the boundary line in the Red River valley.

W. M. Coldwell, of Rat Portage, has returned from the south with a mining expert, who will examine several gold claims on the Lake of the Woods in the interest of a party of capitalists who have been solicited make investments for the purpose of developing the property.

Case, R. L. Tupper and Patterson have gone to the Riding Mountain district, Man., to commence work on the Lake Dauphin Oil Company's claim. The necessary machinery for developing the property has been forwarded and will be on the ground by the time they arrive. The shareholders are satisfied that oil exists in paying quantities in the Lake Dauphin district, and they are prepared to expend a considerable amount of money in obtaining it.

Calgary Tribune says: There is nothing particularly new in the situation, but the general opinion is that the cause of the shutting down was the inability of the company to make favorable freight rates with the C. P. R. for a longer term than one year. The coal company determined not to make less than a five years arrangement, but as the C. P. R. would not grant this they shut down, and will probably build a road themselves down south, to connect with the American system.

A correspondent writes from Banff saying that the new C. P. R. hotel at that place is now open and that already a number of guests arrived.

Calgary Tribune: The cowboy meet at High River this year was the most imposing one that has been held in the country yet. Here were

assembled one hundred and twenty-five of the best horsemen it is possible to imagine, each mounted on the festive broncho that the rider could pick out of his "string" of eight or ten. The broncho had done but little service since last fall, and when he was roped, saddled and mounted by his rider, whose large jingling spurs were driven into his flank or shoulder to see if there was any buck in him the scene was interesting, and to see one hundred and twenty-five riders mounted on these gentle animals who were making frantic efforts to displace their riders was a scene not to be forgotten. Some of the ladies of the district attended the meet to witness the fun of the first day's camp, and the numerous races that always take place. Geo. Lane, of the Northwest Cattle Co., was appointed commander-in-chief of the forces, and he chose his different captains and had everything ready for an early turnout on Monday morning. The country between Sheep Creek and High River was first to be scoured and the other districts in their turn. A more careful search of the country is to be made this year than ever before, and it is expected that the brand of the calves will be much larger than in any former year of the country's history.

At a late meeting of the Calgary Council, a resolution was passed authorizing the Mayor to advertise for offers for the construction of a system of waterworks such offers to be in the form of a tender for hydrants for the use of the town and for the supply of water to the citizens. A resolution was also adopted requesting the Mayor to call a public meeting of the ratepayers to discuss the financial situation and to endeavor thereby to ascertain the feeling of the people as to the advisability of issuing debentures for ten or fifteen thousand dollars to carry out public improvements throughout the town, such as sidewalks, sewers, etc. A councillor said that to raise funds enough to meet the current expenses without spending a dollar in permanent improvements, 18 or 20 mills on the dollar would have to be levied. The assessment of the town for the year was about \$1,400,000. Taking the amount spent already and the necessary expenses yet to meet, very nearly \$20,000 will have to be raised in taxation this year.

A meeting of the Winnipeg clerks was held on Thursday evening in connection with the early closing movement. The sub-committees appointed to get the city merchants to sign petitions asking that a by-law be passed making the early closing of stores during the summer evenings compulsory, reported having met with success. The petitions were put in shape for presentation to the city council next Monday evening. They have been signed by dry goods men, clothiers, grocers, jewellers, butchers, barbers and in fact those engaged in every line of trade. It was decided that the merchants should not be asked to close at 22 o'clock on Saturday nights, but allowed to keep open their establishments that evening as late as they saw fit. One or two merchants have refused to sign but the clerks are certain they will fall in with the majority and that the movement will be entirely successful. It is understood that the aldermen are unanimously in favor of passing the by-law.