

lost and everything to be gained by such a treaty, as they do not produce a single thing that Canada produces. All those things that they do not raise they buy from the States, and they might just as well be supplied by our own Dominion."

It is needless to say that the address was received with appreciation and applause.

The secretary's report deserves more space than you could possibly spare. It comprises a most comprehensive review of business of the city and province, dealing with all aspects of our resources, devoting particular attention to agriculture, the development of which is the most promising factor in our future as a province. The whole will be published in pamphlet form for general distribution.

A resolution was carried asking for postal services to be added to the train leaving Winnipeg on Wednesday for the coast and the train leaving Vancouver for Winnipeg on Monday. A committee was appointed to make arrangements for according a fitting reception for the Empress of India on her arrival here. Altogether the meeting was a very harmonious and important one, and augurs well not only for the success of the institution itself but for the commercial life of the city.

British Columbia.

J. T. Brown, has opened a livery at Vancouver.

D. Goldberg, has opened in clothing at Vancouver.

Green & Birchall is the name of a new real estate firm at Victoria.

British Columbia sold to the United States last year coal to the value of \$1,953,231.

D. McConkey has opened a lunch counter and confectionery store at Vancouver.

Ice is being shipped from the interior to Fraser river points, for the summer fishing supply.

Brenchley & Bennett, have opened in the real estate, insurance and commission business at New Westminster.

W. E. Cook, for several years with Lenz & Leiser, will open business about the 15th of May at Victoria, in dry goods, etc.

J. T. L. Meyer, late of Calgary, has joined with A. P. Joyce, in establishing a real estate, financial and insurance business at Victoria.

Baker Bros., of Vancouver, have chartered the steamship Grandholm, to load freight at Glasgow and Liverpool for British Columbia.

J. Mahrer, of Nanaimo, has purchased the lot at the corner of Farquhar and Haliburton streets and it is his intention to erect a large hotel thereon.

Gravely & Spiuks will build a large block on the corner of Carroll and Oppenheimer streets, Vancouver. There will be five stores in the block, two storeys high. It will be brick.

An effort is being made to suppress the processions of the locked-out Wellington miners. Several are under arrest. The wives of the miners are now keeping up the procession.

Delay in granting fishery licenses has caused some annoyance to the Fraser river fishermen. The shipment of fresh salmon has commenced, the first shipment having gone forward last week.

A telegram says a smelting company has

been organized at Nelson, to build a complete reduction works at the Falls, on Cottonwood Smith creek, provided the government will grant it a site at that place.

The city assessment of New Westminster for 1891 shows the value of real estate and improvements to be \$7,004,820. Last year the total assessment was \$4,593,865; increase over last year, \$2,408,955, or more than fifty per cent.

R. T. Williams has made arrangements with the contractors to have his new block on Broad street, Victoria, continued up for another storey, making five in all. This will make it the only five-storey block in Victoria.

The Bonanza Company have struck a rich vein of gold at Lillooet, which is said to be one of the best things in mining. The precious metal is almost visible, and promises an abundant yield. It is claimed to be a bonanza indeed.

Brackman & Ker, wholesale grain men, of Victoria, will at once proceed with the construction of their oatmeal mill, near the outer wharf at Victoria, where their private landing for ships loading or discharging has already been completed.

The Victoria board of trade some time ago submitted to Ottawa a list of points where it would be advisable to locate buoys and beacons. The marine department has acted upon this, and probably all or most of the buoys, lights and beacons will be supplied.

The contract for the construction of a large three-storey hotel on Dallas road, James Bay, Victoria, for W. Jensen has been let to Wm. Lorimer, and work on the building will be at once commenced and rushed through that the late summer tourist travel can be catered to. The selection of the site is a splendid one overlooking as it does the straits, and near the outer wharf where all the large steamers touch. The hotel will be run on the European plan.

For some time past a scheme to consolidate all the breweries of British Columbia under one management, has been under way, and the proprietors of the principal breweries have been approached with offers to purchase. The scheme has been engineered by John Mahrer, of Nanaimo, assisted by John Kollexfen, of the same place. The amount of capital involved in the scheme will be close on a million dollars. At latest reports the scheme was in a fair way to be successfully arranged.

Victoria master and journeymen tailors are disputing as to wages. The journeymen want an increase of prices to the following:— For frock coats the bill proposes, first class, about \$17, second class, \$15.50. Morning coats, first class, \$14, second class, \$12, double breasted sacque coats, first class \$12, second class \$11, third class, \$10. Overcoats, first class, \$14, second class, \$13, third class, \$11. Pants and vests start at \$3 and with extras in the various styles run up to \$4.50.

Victoria Times: "From the trade and navigation returns for the year ending 30th June, 1890, which have just been issued, we learn that British Columbia bought from the United States of dutiable goods \$2,032,353 worth; of free goods \$527,069 worth; total \$2,559,426. During the same time we bought from Great

Britain, dutiable \$802,106; free, \$403,862; total \$1,211,053. British Columbia exported of her produce to Great Britain \$2,039,765, and to the United States \$3,043,187."

The last British Columbia *Gazette* contained the advertisement of the association of the "British Columbia Roburite Explosive company limited." The capital stock is placed at \$50,000, in 500 shares of \$100 each. The trustees are James Dunsmuir, Hon. F. G. Vernon and John Wilson, all of Victoria. Their object is to acquire, for British Columbia, the invention of an improved explosive called roburite, to manufacture it and other explosive substances compounds, etc., etc., the company to exist for fifty years, with principal place of business at Victoria.

British Columbia Trade Letter.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

VANCOUVER, March 16.—Nothing special in commercial circles this week, with the exception that flour has advanced in sympathy with prices east. Good creamery butter is very scarce, but steady in price, though likely to advance. Eggs are also scarce. Shipments of fresh fish east have started. Real estate is in a healthy condition. One feature of last week was the deciding of the tramway route between Vancouver and Westminster, which will have a decided effect on the realty market. Consolidation in the cannery business seems to be the order of the day and all the canneries of British Columbia are likely to become the property of either of one of two large syndicates being formed one of which R. P. Rithet, Victoria, is at the head of and the other being organized by Bell, Irving & Patterson of this city. Several large industrial companies have been gazetted, one the Vancouver Traders' and Navigation Co., capital \$20,000, another the Nelson Improvement Co., controlled by Victoria capitalists, and still another for the manufacture of a new explosive in Victoria. General business remains about the same. Prices are about as follows:—

Flour, grain and feed—Flour is quoted 25c higher for Manitoba brands. Oregon is unchanged, but will be higher. Quotations for principal brands are as follows: Manitoba Patents, \$6.25; Manitoba Bakers, \$5.25; Oregon flour, \$5.25; cornmeal, \$2.60; rolled oats \$3.50; oatmeal, \$3 to \$3.50 per 100 pounds; oil cake is firm at \$40 per ton; shorts, \$26 per ton; bran, \$21; wheat, \$35 to \$40; chopped feed, \$35 to \$40; oats \$35; hay, \$17 to \$18.

Dairy products—Creamery butter, firm at 28 to 29c; dairy, choice, 20 to 24c; medium, 15 to 20c; poor 10 to 12c; California roll butter expected in the market soon. Cheese, 12½ to 13c.

Eggs—Easier, Ontario pickled eggs, 18 to 20c. Fresh scarce.

Vegetables—Potatoes \$25 \$30 per ton; carrot and turnips \$10 to \$15 per ton; onions, \$4 to \$5 per box.

Fruits, Oranges plentiful. Choice Washington Navels, 4.75 per box; best Riverside seedlings, \$3.25, and \$4; medium quality seedlings, \$2.75; San Gabrielle, \$2.50 to \$3. Apples scarce \$2 per box. Sicilian lemons \$7 to \$8 per box; California, do., \$4 to \$5.

Fish—Salt Salmon, \$9 per 200 lb barrel, canned salmon, \$4.50 to \$5.50 per case.

Sugar—B. C. refined quoted at 7½c for granulated, and 6½c for yellow.