THE MINING INDUSTRY.

The owners of mining properties in British Columbia have petitioned the Dominion government to appoint a royal commission to investigate the conditions under which they are compelled to carry on their business. The request should be granted and the inquiry made as searching as possible in order to settle forever the controversy which has been carried on for some time between those who claim to be oppressed and those who say over-capitalization and other evils which have been brought about by the proprietors themselves are responsible for the alleged stagnation. It should be possible to determine whether the mines are paying more than their share towards the cost of the government of the province as compared with other business. If the burdens are shown to be fairly apportioned, all the circumstances being taken into consideration, then we suppose the managers of the mines will be satisfied, will cease all agitation and devote the energies which appear to have been unduly spent in grumbling to the work of earning dividends for their shareholders. The debt of the province is no doubt large—far larger than it ought to be considering the objects for which it was contracted—but agitation will not wipe it out. A great part of it was entered into for the purpose of opening up the country and making the mines accessible and workable. The residents of the province are worthy of as much consideration as the capitalists who live out of it. If the wealth of the country cannot pay for the means necessary to its extraction it might as well remain where it is; if it cannot afford fair wages to the workmen who are spending their lives in its exploitation, if it be necessary to engage Orientals and fill our province up with an inferior class of people in order that capital shall receive dividends upon investment, the treasure might as well remain in the custody of the rocks which at present guard it. The eight-hour law was enacted ahead of its time, perhaps. It was passed through the House without proper discussion and brought into force without sufficient notice. But it is law and there will never arise a legislature with the courage necessary to repeal it. No doubt there are other grievances and it may be that the government will be able to redress some of the inequalities complained of. It will not be forgotten that there were times when certain mines were earning large dividends. They were sold, and under the new management came a change. Was the whistle bought at too large a price or was the capital bag unduly distended by means of water or wind? The mining men have no right to blame the laws of the province if through the instrumentality of promoters they have been induced to pay too high a price for their properties, nor have they been discreet in issuing such a memorial if it should prove true that extravagant inflation is at the bottom of the failure to earn dividends.

The Dominion government has removed the duty on all mining machinery that cannot be obtained in Canada, it has complied with the request of the men interested in lead properties, and will give a bonus on every ton of lead smelted in the country. Now there is complaint of customs duties. Will nothing less than annexation to the United States satisfy the desires of these worthy gentlemen who abound so freely in the neighborhood of Rossland? The mines of Vancouver Island, and of the Nelson and the Boundary Creek districts appear to be doing fairly well, yet they are contending with precisely the same difficulties as are set forth in this important memorial.

Nevertheless we hope the government will pay the deepest attention to the prayer of the memorialists and that everything possible will be done to restore harmony and prosperity in the mining regions.

INDISCREET.

Our esteemed morning contemporary was in a frame of mind on Sunday that was entirely out of harmony with the spirit of the day of rest. It said things which must in the usual hour or two devoted to meditation have sadly disturbed the serenity of a mind seeking the approval of conscience. The responsibility for the entire failure of the government's notorious railway policy is thrown upon the Dominion government, accompanied by a slap at Mr. Bodwell as a Victorian whose motives as an advocate of a competing line are entirely mercenary. That is a phase of the subject, we submit, that it would have been well for the Colonist to avoid the discussion of. Newspapers have been ordered by their proprietors to advocate causes which were not in the best interests of the country. Even editors are sometimes mere hirelings, with the option of writing as they are bid or making way for others with a more pliable disposition. Fortunately for the country, such instances are rare. The public journals of the Dominion are usually actuated by patriotic motives, and the men engaged upon them generally write from conviction. This business of prying into motives opens up a very wide field. People have been heard to wonder at the mysterious influences which seem to direct the currents of thought in our own British Columbia Legislative Assembly. Members have gone there pledged to advocate a certain policy and have either remained neutral or have worked like Trojans to achieve something the very antithesis of the course to which they had bound themselves. Of course the motives are not "metallic." Nothing so base could stem the tide of patriotism which flows so fiercely in, say, the veins of the leader of the opposition or the member for North Nanaimo. The Attorney-General's soul floats in an atmosphere several degrees removed from such sordid influences. The Premier, too, has been taken in hand by circumstance and gently placed in a position where nothing in this world need trouble him save a gang of pesky strikers. We have heard the patriots who are given to much speaking proclaim their own political virtues and the vices of those who think differently from them; we have seen the agents of corporations flitting through the lobbies; and when the vote was taken we have been too astonished to more than inwardly wonder at the potency of the eloquence which has brought about such a marvellous change of opinion. But we have scrupulously avoided even a suggestion of mercenary influences; and we think it a mistake on the part of the Colonist to bring it up.

It was pointed out at the time the government's railway policy was brought down—that mighty conception that was to alter the whole face of nature and turn the waste places into "hives of industry"—that the effect would be precisely the same as no policy at all. Some went farther and maintained that that was the object of those who drew up the plan or scheme of development. The Times pointed out that it was absurd to ask the Dominion government to join hands with the administration of Mr. Dunsmuir in such an ill-balanced arrangement. The federal authorities were asked to double the subsidy given by the province and surrender all rights of control of rates and profits from the undertakings, if there were any, to the government of British Columbia. The master minds in the business government undertook to say what roads should be built, how long they should be, and into whose hands they should be committed. They would be pleased graciously to accept subsidies of from eight to ten thousand dollars a mile from the Dominion government for the benefit of the companies which had had the good luck to win their favor. The acceptance of such proposals would have been very pleasing to the opposition at Ottawa. It would have left the opening for legitimate criticism which has been searched for in vain for several years. Any administration which could be so careless of the interests of the people of the Dominion as a whole would not be fit to remain in power.

If the government were to call in new advisers and remodel its policy there would be no necessity to raise the cry of mercenary motives nor to send out expeditions which are admittedly an after-thought and an excuse for the present conditions of affairs to be placed before certain members.

THAT RAILWAY POLICY.

Our esteemed contemporary announces its determination of valiantly defending the policy of the government from the attacks of its foes through the whole of the heated term. As an evidence of good faith it devotes a column and a half of space to the job this morning. Readers of the newspapers are probably as tired of the subject as they are of the government which is responsible for it. The decree has gone forth. The survey will be made and there will be no railway building this year. That point is settled. The people are deeply disappointed and business is depressed. For a time the province is helpless and criticism is useless. If the administration be acting in good faith the proof of it will be forthcoming. In the meantime the people are suspicious, and in the light of the occurrences of last session they have good ground for restlessness. The railway policy which was to revolutionize the business of the province has failed to secure the construction of a single line of road. There is a certain amount of activity in the interor, but it is not the result of, but rather antagonistic to, the policy of the government. The friends of the Times whom the Colonist sneers at as the promoters of legislation did not ask for a subsidy or encouragement of any kind from the province. They asked for permission to build the Crow's Nest Southern road. They pointed out that the revenue of a province which was much in need of funds would be greatly augmented as a result of the increased royalties which would ensue from the enlarged output of coal. It was also shown that the product of the coal mines would be brought to its highest state of development before exportation, and that the utmost care would be taken to provide a full supply of fuel for Canadian smelters. Even with such prospects and guarantees it was for some time a question whether a charter would be granted. The government which was beseeching the Dominion to come to its assistance in building railways for the development of the resources of the province and the legislature which was willing to pledge the credit of the constituencies it represents for a large amount for the same object, were on the point of refusing permission to a company to build at its own expense a line which would result in an increase of our provincial trade by millions of dollars yearly. Beyond doubt the Crow's Nest Southern charter would have been refused if the power which operates behind the government and the legislature had not made the timely discovery that public opinion was too powerful for them to cope with. The privilege the legislature granted was attacked through the courts, which shows that monopoly will fight to the last ditch in defence of its privileges.

The V., V. & E. people were no friends of the Times except in so far as we, in common with all who have the interests of the province at heart and place the welfare of Victoria above all other considerations, were convinced that competition in transportation was necessary to secure healthy business conditions on the coast and in the interior. It was evident to all from the first that the government was antagonistic to the V., V. & E. The Premier and Mr. Hunter maintain as practical railway men that there is no such thing as competition between railways. If they will read the evidence which has thus far been collected by the commissioner appointed by the Dominion government to inquire into that very matter, they will be constrained to admit they are mistaken. The competition of railways in the United States with the two great Canadian lines, in conjunction with unreasonable charges in localities where there is no competition, in spite of the fiscal tariff, have resulted in the handing over of a large part of the trade of Ontario to American business houses. The border towns of Michigan and New York owe a large part of their prosperity to the business which has been magnanimously turned over to them by railways which were for the most part built with the money of Canadian people. The struggle which has been begun in British Columbia against the building up of United States cities with our wealth will probably be extended over the whole Dominion if it be possible to devise means of compelling the railways to fulfil the objects for which they were intended. The Premier has set his face against competition—his organ cannot deny that—and it is apparent that the electors have as a result set their faces against the Premier. There is a strong suspicion that the government has an understanding with the C. P. R. There was plenty of evidence brought out during the recent session of the House in support of that theory, and there has been no lack of it since the Legislature was prorogued. The administration may be sincere in its belief that it would be unpatriotic to encourage an American line to come in here when there is a Canadian one ready to respond to every demand made upon it. But it is wrong to attempt to throw the responsibility for failure to begin a work the company which controls the government did not want to see undertaken just at present upon the Dominion authorities.

The Colonist has several times hinted at the dire results which would follow if it chose to raise the party cry. If it thinks the cause of the Dunsmuir government can be strengthened by raising such an issue it cannot begin too soon. The government needs all the strength it can gather and need not be particular as to the quarter to which it appeals. The leading newspapers in the East of its party held the proposals which were placed before the Dominion government in derision and laughed scornfully at them.

The programme of the government included two projects of prime importance—the building of a railway from the Coast to Kootenay and the extension of the E. & N. to the north end of the Island. Sir Wilfrid Laurier declared that the Coast-Kootenay road should be built and conveyed the impression that the government was prepared to subsidize the undertaking. There is but one company prepared to give the service which the people of the province desire—to handle local and through business and give competition with the existing transcontinental line. The provincial government has chosen to impose such conditions as will keep this company out of the field and prevent an application for the subsidy which the Dominion is willing to give. For the continuation of the line to the north end of the Island a subsidy is asked which we believe no government will be prepared to give when all the circumstances are taken into consideration, and which have been alluded to in the Times before. We advise our contumacious contemporary not to probe too deeply into these matters.

A POLITICAL DERELICT.

Mr. Foster is not anxious for a seat in Parliament at present. George always was a canny, calculating chap. When the political horizon looks a trifle brighter for the Conservative party and there is a job worth eight or nine thousand dollars a year in sight the political derelict will trim his sails once more and be ready for another venture. At present there is more money in guiding the affairs of some financial institution. Perhaps Mr. Foster would not mind either if the present leader of the party should prove as dismal a failure as some of his predecessors. It is not improbable that he may be gratified. Mr. Borden is not the man to create enthusiasm. Able he is, no doubt, and moderate in tone and language, a man to respect and defer to, but not one to inspire the devotion which was compelled by Sir John Macdonald and is voluntarily accorded to Sir Wilfrid Laurier. But the exit of Borden would not imply the advent of Foster. It would take a new generation of politicians and the possible mellowing influence of time to bring about such a consummation. The time which would bring on the new generation might remove the ambitious politician. There is the chance that in a moment of weakness the lieutenants of the party might be carried away by the enthusiasm aroused by one of George's bitter attacks on the Grits who turned him out of a job and should select the rejected of St. John for the leadership. They would be sorry for it immediately afterwards and the country would be likely soon to convince them that they had good reason to be sorry. No constituency has ever stuck to Mr. Foster long; and the feeling of constituencies is generally a pretty fair index of the feeling of the country. A leader who cannot win the permanent confidence of the few people with whom he often comes personally in contact is not likely to add to the strength of the party as a whole. A man who could not carry a city with all the strength, influence and wealth of the C. P. R. ranged on his side, with that corporation threatening the ruin of the city if his opponent were elected, is lacking in some of the elements necessary to a successful politician. Mr. Foster also still has many enemies in his own party, men who will probably live as long as he and who are not of the calibre which forgets and forgives. On the whole it seems as if the better course for the financial critic of the opposition would be to give up scheming and either reconcile himself to a life of service in the ranks of the party which made him or give up the public life which does not pay altogether.

LORD ROBERTS'S REWARD.

There are few men within the bounds of the Empire, even in the ranks of the taxpayers of Great Britain, who will disapprove of the reward which the Imperial Parliament has bestowed upon the man whose presence wrought such a magical change within such a short time in the situation in South Africa. The nature of the task which Kruger had set before the army was greatly under-estimated at first and the disposition of a large part of the ostensibly loyal population misunderstood. The commander-in-chief realised at once the magnitude of the problem, and requested an army and prepared a plan of campaign equal to the occasion. These forces under the direction of the military genius who was at their head speedily turned back the tide of invasion which White, Baden-Powell and others had temporarily checked, and a war which has been serious enough in its consequences was prevented from becoming almost disastrous. It is gratifying to observe that the Liberal party has been guided by wisdom, probably bought by experience, on this subject in connection with the war. The radical section was kept well in the background, and the task of attacking the proposal was left to the Nationalists. They accused Lord Roberts of unnecessary harshness in the face of the testimony which has been given from all quarters that if the methods which have been customary in all the wars of the past had been resorted to the campaign would have been at an end long ago. Lord Roberts as a man of war from his youth up has become thoroughly acquainted with all the evils which accompany his trade and the records bear testimony to the fact that it has ever been his sincere desire to avoid pressing burdens for which they were not responsible too hardly upon the innocent and helpless. He has suffered, too, in common with many other British and Boer families, on account of the vaulting ambition of Kruger and his coterie. His Irish fellow-countrymen will hardly join with their representatives in Parliament who conceive it to be their duty to asperse the character of the commander-in-chief with the mistaken idea of making a point against the government.

The organization of workers is not very complete yet, but the disturbance of business a strike in a few lines can create is graphically illustrated by the situation in San Francisco. There is a possibility of the whole coast being affected by the struggle. What will happen when the organizing work of the organizer is complete and all who depend upon their day's labor for their daily bread have been brought under the banner of unionism? So far a large number of the unions have contained within themselves the elements which brought about their own dissolution. But a leader may arise with the faculty of maintaining harmony, and then the state will be confronted by a problem which will test its stability—organized labor and united capital in conflict.

* * *

The police of San Francisco have decided to permit non-union men to carry arms to protect themselves from strikers. If this does not result in bloodshed it will be contrary to all former experiences. Such an order is a severe reflection upon the administration of the law in San Francisco. The most effective means of securing liberty to all who desire to peacefully pursue their occupations is to prevent the carriage of deadly weapons by anyone and prompt dealing with those who are inclined to resort to violence. Experience on the Fraser river proves this.

* * *

Our able contemporary the Nanaimo Herald has misapprehended the spirit in which a certain article in the Times was written. The following paragraph was penned in bitterness if the sarcasm is not on the surface:

"Japan is too valuable an ally to be lost to the British over trifles at the present time; and after all the grievances of a few thousand people in British Columbia weigh but little when placed in the scale in opposition to the political schemes of the Empire."

* * *

The passage in the British House of Commons of the estimate of £2,000,000, Britain's share of the cost of the Pacific cable, calls attention to the fact that that important work is well under way and that another year may see it in operation. The cable is now being manufactured and the stations prepared. The actual work of depositing the cable in its slimy bed will not take long.

FINISHED HIS LABORS.

Census Enumerator for Cassiar Has Returned to Skagway—His Wanderings.

Geo. Coutts, census enumerator for Cassiar, has arrived at Skagway en route to Atlin, where he will report to J. W. McFarlane.

He left Atlin, says the Skagway Alaskan, in its account of his wanderings, on May 4th, and followed the line of the telegraph with a dog team 230 miles to Telegraph creek. From here he went 250 miles further to McDame's creek at the head of Dease lake. From here he went down the Dease river to McDame's landing. There are many more Indians in the country than there are whites, and a number of Chinese. Most of the latter are old men who have remained in the district for thirty years and have made good money in mining. They don't wear queues, speak good English and seem prefectly satisfied with their surroundings.

When at Glenora Mr. Coutts met an employee of the Chinese government who had come to disinter the bones of all dead Chinese in the district for shipment to China. While the great fortunes that were taken out of the Cassiar in the old days has denuded the district of its value as a pick and shovel field the miners of the Cassiar maintain that the whole country is rich with pay for hydraulic working. All the stores, excepting at Glenora, are in the hands of the Hudson Bay company. The fur trade of the district only amounts to about $30,000 now. The trapping is about all done by the Indians, and only three white trappers are seen in the country. The transportation of freight into the country, aside from the Hudson Bay pack train, is confined to bateaux on the rivers and lakes, packing on the backs of Indians and dog sledding in the winter. The Tibbitts Creek Mining Co., at the head of Dease lake, is the only hydraulic proposition in the district. This is their first working season, and no clean-ups have been made so far. They are running two nozzles, have splendid power and dumping facilities, and it is said that their prospecting promises excellent pay. All the hardy vegetables grow vigorously and the Chinese have very good truck gardens. About Glenora there are a few small farms that produce good crops of timothy, oats and barley. There are no mission stations in the district excepting one that has been established this season at Tahltan.

Down at Liard there is the old pioneer Hudson Bay fort, in a very good state of preservation, but it is now used as a warehouse for telegraph supplies. The country is more mountainous than about Atlin. The highest peak in the country is Mt. Sylvester, near McDame's creek, and is 7,000 feet high. There are promising copper prospects 20 miles east of Glenora and on the Clearwater, 25 miles up the stream from the Stikine a number of claims have been staked on a quartz lode. The lode is in a granite formation which, with serpentine, is the country rock for many miles about Glenora. Along McDame's creek the formation turns to slate and limestone, but no fossil imprints are observable.

Two days before Mr. Coutts got into Telegraph creek the government telegraph outfit had gone out to fill a 90-mile gap between Hazelton and Telegraph creek, which is expected to be closed before the end of September.

There are three tribes of Indians in the country, all speaking different dialects. There are the Tahltans, the Llards and the Dames' creek tribe. The Llards are still prone to belief in witchcraft and the killing of people among them who are deemed to have bewitched is not rare. Mr. Coutts saw 13 bears while on his way up the river from McDame's creek. Moose and caribou are also numerous. There are more half-breeds among the Liards than any other of the tribes.

Many of the customs of the old Hudson Bay regime are still prevalent in the country. The people are prone to fiddle, rollick and dance, the white men being quite content with the company of young squaws, many of whom are quite comely at these jollifications.

VANCOUVER CARNIVAL.

Committee Making Good Progress—Merchants' Exhibits Will Prove Attractive.

The citizens' committee on the Vancouver Street Fair announces that the progress so far made by it has now reached that point where success is assured. Vancouverites have decided not to leave to the amusement part of the show all the attractions. On the contrary, while insisting that these amusement features will be varied, numerous and first class, they have taken care to do everything in their power to see that the natural exhibits of the city are not neglected.

Mineral and matte from the upper country, fishing, lumber and minor products will be represented. The merchants individually are putting up large sums of money in making special exhibits, and the row of booths at the entrance to the fair will be one of its best attractions.

The surprise of Monday's voting for the Queen of the Carnival was the bold bid made by the supporters of Miss Lulu Blackburn for first honors. Voting will only continue for the next two days, and the result will soon be known. As each day passes on the balloting becomes more and more active, and some startling changes are to be looked for before the Queen is definitely elected.

IN NO IMMEDIATE DANGER.

Berlin, July 31.—The court marshal at Cronberg, speaking of the Dowager Empress Frederick, declares that Her Majesty, concerning whose health alarming reports have again been circulated, is in no immediate danger.

INFLAMED FEET.

Foot Elm relieves the inflammation and soreness of chafed, swollen and sweating feet. It soothes and cools bunions, corns and ingrowing toenails.

There is no sore, painful, or disagreeable condition of the feet that Foot Elm will not relieve and cure. Refuse substitutes and imitations that injure the feet. Foot Elm is 25c. a box at all druggists or by mail. Stott & Jury, Bowmanville, Ont.

Asked Them To Resign

Creditors of Green-Worlock & Co. Estate Dissatisfied With Trustees.

A Meeting on August 12th Will Consider the Question of New Management.

At a meeting of creditors of the estate of Green, Worlock & Co., held in the board of trade building yesterday afternoon, the resignation of the trustees, Robert Beaven and J. Stuart Yates, was asked for, and a committee appointed to recommend a trustee or trustees to manage the affairs of the estate at a meeting to be held on August 12th.

The meeting was an adjourned one, the previous meeting on the 9th having decided upon this course in order to give the trustees an opportunity to prepare a financial report showing the assets and liabilities, the receipts and disbursements of the estate, and to report upon what they thought should be done with the estate. At the meeting on the 9th all was not harmonious, and at the meeting yesterday there was no attempt to conceal the dissatisfaction which was felt by a majority of the creditors in the administration of the affairs of the estate.

The assignment of Green, Worlock & Co. took place in 1894, seven years ago. The estate was a large one and a wide diversity of assets entered into the business. The creditors also were many, ranging from those who had only small deposits with the firm to those who had their whole savings entrusted to their keeping. From March 2nd, 1894, to May 21st, of the same year, the estate was vested in I. Coltart, H. F. Heisterman and J. Stuart Yates as trustees. From May 22nd, 1894, to the present time, Robert Beaven and J. Stuart Yates have acted in the capacity of trustees for the estate. The former has received $75 a month, the latter $50 a month, with 5 per cent. on all collections and receipts and 2½ per cent. on all disbursements.

The meeting called on the 9th inst. was called to consider matters in connection with the maturing of the mortgage upon the property extending from Government to Broad street. This property, at the time of the assignment, had been mortgaged to the Law Union & Crown Life Association for $70,000 at seven per cent., or six per cent. if paid promptly. The mortgage fell due in 1895, about a year after the assignment, but an extension of the time for payment was effected. Utilizing the moneys coming into their hands, the trustees reduced the mortgage to $40,000. They also secured the money to pay off the old mortgage from the Independent Order of Foresters at a reduced rate of interest. The last meeting of the creditors was held four years ago.

The remuneration of the trustees was felt by the creditors to be exorbitant, and they freely expressed themselves to that effect yesterday. There were about eighty of the creditors present, including many ladies.

The chair was taken by C. E. Redfern.

Col. Gregory took exception to the report presented to the shareholders by the trustees. He could nowhere find in it a list of the assets of the estate. What was represented as such was not intelligible enough to warrant calling the creditors together. The statement showed liabilities amounting to $400,000, but the trustees had not carried out their instructions and furnished the value of the various assets.

Robert Beaven said it was impossible to put values upon all the assets.

Chairman Redfern said that he figured the assets at $329,244.48, according to the values given by the trustees and taking the assessed values of property when such valuations had not been made.

J. Peirson also could not make the statement intelligible. He figured the assets from it at $422,000.

Col. Gregory, continuing, said the trustees had not shown a disposition to make clear the affairs of the estate. He did not wish to see the business of the estate continued simply to give an income to the trustees. Already they had made $22,000. The creditors would like to get what there was in the estate for them rather than continue in uncertainty. The recommendations were also valueless. What the creditors wanted was a concise recommendation as to what could be done with the property. He moved that the creditors request that the trustees who have had the management of the Green, Worlock & Co. estate since 1894 resign their offices.

J. Stuart Yates, in explanation, said that at the last meeting he had intended to resign, but had not been given an opportunity to do so. Some of the aspersions cast by Col. Gregory upon the trustees were uncalled for. Col. Gregory had been the receiver of one of the debtors of the estate, and the trustees had not received a courteous reply from him in the matter. There was great difficulty in putting values upon the assets of such an estate as this one. The trustees could not always divulge just what was taking place, as it might mean a sale going off. There were difficulties which required the most careful handling. To put values upon some assets might lead to trustees being charged afterwards with misrepresenting affairs. Knowing the value of R. Beaven he hoped the resolution would not be seconded. As for himself his resignation was in their hands.

Andrew Chisen seconded the motion.

E. V. Bodwell, solicitor for the estate, pointed out difficulties in connection with such a motion. Trustees were not open to resign their office, nor had the creditors the power to say they must resign.

Col. Gregory explained his method of dealing with the difficulty, and the motion was allowed.

J. Peirson objected to the way in which the assets were massed together, which made it unintelligible to those interested. He objected to massing $216,588 of assets in one lump. After seven years' handling of the accounts he thought a detailed statement might be made. He would like to know by whose authority an application was made to Mr. Justice Drake for extra remuneration for trustees. Many of the creditors were surprised to learn that in addition to the $125 a month, which was being paid, that there was 5 per cent. on all collection and receipts, and 2½ per cent. on all disbursements. With less than 10 per cent. having been received by the creditors, he felt that the payment of $22,000 for the management of the estate was too much. He thought a saving could be made in not requiring the present office kept for the trustees. The statement submitted did not reveal clearly an understanding of the affairs of the estate. It would have been better to have slaughtered the estate at the time of the assignment rather than continue with such a poor understanding of the true state of the estate.

E. Bragg thought that the trustees alone were not to blame. He censured also the advisory committee appointed to act with them. The trustees had been given too great latitude by them. The advisory committee had not even known of the increase in the amount of the remuneration. Four years was too long a lapse in which to have no meeting of the creditors. He believed the estate was in good shape, and care should be taken to make a judicious move in the matter.

Alex. Wilson, a member of the advisory committee, recalled the fact that the first meeting was of the debtors of the estate, who passed a resolution that the preferred creditors should be paid in full. At the first meeting of the creditors Mr. Wootton was appointed to have the judge award what was to be received by the trustees. The estate was a peculiar one. It was "rotten to the heart's core." Robert Beaven had done a great work in straightening matters up. With J. S. Yates's resignation a solution of the matter was afforded. He did not want to see the matter muddled up again, as there were widows with dependent children who were creditors of this estate. The creditors should look to their own interests and maintain R. Beaven as trustee.

Noah Shakespeare favored acting rather than indulging in past experiences. The cost of management, it was felt, should be reduced 60 per cent. This would be the only satisfactory solution of the matter. The hard work which existed at first was now past. The drawing of a large salary when the work was over was an outrage. At the last moment, perhaps in answer to a little bird, the trustees had favored a reduction in their number. There was little use in meeting every five years without coming to some decision, which would effect a reduction of expenses.

Robert Beaven said that he was actuated to make a reply by the remarks of Mr. Shakespeare alone, whom he felt wished to do what was right, but who had been misinformed. He said personally he was neither a debtor or a creditor of the estate. He had been asked to act as a trustee, and the court had appointed him as such. When he accepted he was led to believe that he would simply have to look after the management and would be given a clerk to carry out the work. But he had been given an enormous amount of work. He had given nearly the whole of his time and his thoughts to get the estate in shape. The unsecured creditors had decided that the secured creditors should be paid off. The affairs had been straightened up. There were practically no encumbrances upon the estate. He had been given about $9,000 for seven years' work. During his management of the estate there had been more property brought into the estate than would pay his expenses, so that his services had really not cost them anything. Only within the last few months one of the largest suits had been settled. Personally he wished he had never seen the estate. He had done his duty, and in doing so had stirred up antagonism with many. At present the expenses should be kept down as much as possible, and the estate should soon be wound up. The present conditions in the province were such as to frustrate the indications of a few months ago that the estate could be wound up. There had been in the last three years one suit which alone would have cost more to have handled by any one outside of the estate than would pay his expenses for three years.

S. Perry Mills thought it was an easy matter to critize, but the unsatisfactory condition of the finances in connection with the estate arose out of the reduced state in which property throughout the province was found to be at the present time

Col. Gregory, before the vote was taken, made some explanatory remarks. He said that the insinuations of J. Stuart Yates concerning the speaker's connection with an interested estate were uncalled for. The speaker had been the receiver for the estate of Belyea & McGregor. Upon finding it indebted to the Green-Worlock estate he had paid the debt cheerfully. He had no animosity towards the trustees. In his opinion the statements and recommendations asked for at the last meeting had not been prepared. The insinuation made by someone that he was seeking the solicitorship of the estate was incorrect. He thought Bodwell & Duff had been doing the work satisfactorily. He believed Robt. Beaven and J. Stuart Yates were honest. He did not wish to reflect upon their integrity. The trustees might, according to statute, have called the creditors together and had them settle upon the rate of remuneration, rather than go before the court to have it fixed.

J. S. Yates, correcting this statement, said that the creditors had met and could not agree as to what rate should be fixed.

Col. Gregory expressed his willingness to withdraw the motion should the trustees state that they would do the work for a lesser remuneration, and state what it would be.

The vote being taken, the motion was carried by a vote of 188 to 107.

Messrs. Kinsman, Shakespeare and Coigdarippe were unanimously appointed a committee and authorized to find a trustee or trustees willing to accept the office and give security to manage the affairs of the estate at a remuneration not exceeding 5 per cent., the committee to report at a subsequent meeting of the creditors.

The meeting then adjourned to meet in the board of trade building on August 12th at 2.30 in the afternoon.

CASTORIA

For Infants and Children.

The fac-simile signature of Chas. H. Fletcher is on every wrapper.

Old Bone of Contentio

The Craigflower Road Sub Again Brought Up at Coun cil Meeting.

Provisions of By-Law to Be C ried Out—Widening Garbally Road.

O, the Craigflower Road, the Craigfl
Road,
Again serenely bobs,
Our fancied respite, alas, takes flight
And calm position robs.
Eternal jaw has rung the changes
Through universal ranges—
When shall the agony stop?
—The Man on the Back Ben

It was thus that one bard descr the somewhat prosaic subject of Craigflower road dispute at the council last night. Routine had just disposed of, and the aldermen were ginning to think of home, when the bone of contention was brought up.

The communication from Fell & gory, which had been received and on the table a few weeks ago, was read, and in connection with it Beckwith moved that the council c out the provisions of the Craigflo Road By-law.

Ald. Stewart seconded the motion.

Ald. Cameron strongly opposed it. saw no reason or sense in incurring large and unnecessary expense invol The council had no money to carry the work, and the people directly i ested as a whole did not want the opened.

Alds. Hall, Williams Kinsman concurred with Ald. Cam while the other members of the b supported the motion.

Ald. Kinsman pointed out that a tition bearing 140 signatures had sent in to the council some time ago ing that the road be not opened up also to the fact that a number of deputations which had waited on board in the committee room were thoroughly representative of the munity immediately concerned.

Ald. Beckwith, however, thought fully 90 per cent. of people living i neighborhood desired that the by-la enacted.

The motion passing the matter left in abeyance until this evening.

The usual number of communica read included one from J. Ste Pierce, in regard to the constructio a bridge at Point Ellice, enclosi letter from England and asking tha council do nothing towards letting contract for building the stru until he could present plans, etc. writer was of the opinion that ferro-concrete bridge is the one should be adopted, it being a stru largely made of steel, with a subst stone front. The cost of it was p by the letter enclosed as being app mately within $10,000. The comm cation was received and referred t city engineer for report.

William Walter, agent general fo province of British Columbia at Lo wrote notifying the council that he placed the advertisement of the sa the city debentures in the Times.

Received, filed and city clerk instr to suitably asknowledge.

F. Irving Taylor, secretary of the perial Automatic Voting Machine C pany, acquainted the board of havin ceived a new machine for municipal poses, which he invited a committe the council to inspect. The invit was accepted according to request mayor naming as a committee Kinsman, Williams and Cooley, cit licitor and the returning officer.

Thomas Hooper asked that a new walk be laid about his premises at corner of Menzies and Belleville str as the old one had not only worn but was becoming dangerous. Refe to the city engineer with power to

James Smith wrote applying for th sition of superintendent of the cons tion work on the new Point Ellice b when that position was created, ceived and placed on file.

C. C. McKenzie sent in a reques sewer extension on Stanley avenue. letter was referred to the city eng for report.

James Brooks complained of a drain in the Taylor mill locality. Ald. Beckwith urged to have reme He moved that the matter be ref to the city engineer for immediat port, and this course was pursued.

John Smith, of the Fairfield dairy plied for permission to keep more the number of cows mentioned in th law within the city limits, his plac ing situated near Beacon Hill.

Ald. Cameron believed that the quest should be acceded to, the plac the letter explained, having give cause for complaint.

The matter was disposed of by r ring it to the sanitary officer for r

A report from the city engineer, h ing inspector and city solicitor was read as follows:

To His Worship the Mayor and Bea Aldermen:

Gentlemen:—The petition of James nard and others respecting the sid on Douglas street, between Johnson Pandora streets, having been referred we have the honor to report as follow

We are of opinion that the improve asked for is a desirable one, and as i be necessary that the proposed new ture should conform to the proper gra the street, several of the buildings fro on the street would be below the new

We would therefore respectfully su to your honorable body that the co should meet the property owners aff by the sidewalk, and suggest to them the council would be willing to lay a sidewalk to the proper street grade p ing no claim be made by the pro owners for compensation for any al injury which they may consider accru them in consequence of the building new sidewalk to the new grade.

On motion of Ald. Williams the r was received and adopted. It was a that the meeting for the consideratio the matter be set for Monday after at 4 o'clock.

A report from the city purch urgent was then submitted, statin respect to a letter from Erskine, W Co., that groceries not supplied u contract were purchased from diff