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thing left for our monopoly road but to return to about the old rates, and this they have done by reducing their tariff about 40 per cent., which still leaves it about 10 per cent. higher than the old tariff. The rates were advanced from Montreal to the Pacific coast at the same time as from Winnipeg to the coast, but have since been lowered from the former place. It will therefore be seen that this magnanimous move on the part of the C.P.R. is one which like all other concessions was forced from the company by press of circumstances.

### British Columbia.

Work has been commenced on the new gas works at Vancouver.

Beef cattle and sheep are still being largely imported from Oregon.

Forlong & Clunie, of Vancouver, will open a branch store on Valdez Island.

The Coquitlam Water Works by-law has been defeated at Vancouver by a large majority.

Many bush fires have been raging in the interior, and in some places telegraph poles have been destroyed.

The C.P.R. Land Department has arranged to give a rebate on property taken for building purposes at Vancouver.

The Reister brewery at Vancouver has been completed and put in operation. Capacity is 800 gallons daily. R. Reister is the proprietor.

Local passenger rates on the Pacific division of the C.P.R. have been reduced to five cents per mile. Formerly they were seven cents per mile.

Robert Grant, general merchant, Vancouver, has sold out to Wm. and J. J. Cowderoy, who will continue the business under the style of Cowderoy Bros.

The *News* says Vancouver will become the wholesale centre, "for not only the mainland of British Columbia, but for the country as far east as is not held by Montreal and Toronto houses.

Vancouver *News* says: Wentworth F. Wood & Co., of Victoria, have concluded arrangements for removing their wholesale stock of boots and shoes to Vancouver, where they will carry on the firm's business in future.

Vancouver *News*: The Chilean ship Hindostan, 1,542 tons, James Welsh, master, from Valparaiso in ballast arrived in port yesterday morning in tow of the tug pilot. After discharging ballast she will load lumber at the Moodyville sawmills for South America.

Victoria *Standard* says: The number of Chinese immigrants entering British Columbia from January, 1896, to April, 1897, was 797. Of these 127 paid the poll tax, 247 came in bond, and 424 were students or travelers. British Columbia received \$3,525 as its share of the revenue from tax.

A by-law was passed by the Vancouver city council, to be submitted to the popular vote, providing for guaranteeing the bonds of the Coquitlam Water Works Co. In the meantime the Vancouver company has come to the front with an offer to supply water without a guarantee within one year. The by-law will therefore likely be defeated.

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This is the way Mr. Van Horn recently talked to a deputation who interviewed him at Vancouver: "All the money the company received from the sale of their property in Vancouver would be spent in the city and a great deal more besides. Most of the officials of the road intend building blocks in Vancouver, and he himself was about to erect a large block on Granville street. Lots that are now selling for \$1,000 and \$2,000 will be worth \$20,000 in six years. The company intend making Vancouver the city of the coast, and they would assist her citizens in every possible way."

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