WESTMINSTER'S LOSS.

How It Came to Occur Will Be Subject for Insurance Agents Investigation.

Freaks of the Flames and Features of the Scene of Widespread Ruin.

How Enterprising Citizens at Once Set About Retrieving Their Shattered Fortunes.

While it is a kindly custom of the newspapers to incorporate in almost all reference to fires some stereotype compliment to the promptitude or the efficiency of the firemen, such sentiment is not shared by the insurance companies, and as a result searching inquiry into the management or mismanagement of the New Westminster conflagration by the department of the Royal City is looked for. There is a rooted and growing feeling among many who make the origin, management and results of fires their study, that the devastation of New Westminster resulted not so much from exceptional circumstances as through lack of organization and intelligent direction of the forces of defence at the city's command. In this connection the remark is commonly heard, both in New Westminster and in Vancouver, that "this would never have occurred had Chief Ackerman been at home," and in this frequently uttered and sometimes carelessly voiced comment is found the keynote of the criticism. It is well, no doubt, that it should be so, for in preparation lies the safety of communities, and it is not easy to comprehend how, with very little wind to spread the destructive element; the best gravitation water system on the Coast; a fire-boat, chemical and steam engines; and a paid and drilled department, the fire that has laid waste the heart of New Westminster should not have been confined to a comparatively circumscribed area. The firemen of other cities cannot and should not be consulted as to the wisdom of the course pursued by the Royal City brigade, nor should the citizens with little or no knowledge of fire-fighting. The experts should, however, be requested to hear and analyze the evidence procurable, and by their judgment silence the present gossip among supply and insurance men, or disclose the truth, no matter how unpalatable, so that other cities may profit by the dearly-bought experience.

"I do not say the fire could have been prevented in occurrence," said the representative of one of the largest firms in America making a specialty of firemen's supplies, "but from what I have seen and heard on the desolated streets of Westminster, there was no rational excuse for the town's extinction. The simultaneous occurrence of the fire at different points along the city front, of course, increased the difficulty of bringing it under subjection. So did the reported failure of the water supply, but the great difficulty, to put it in a nutshell, was that the firemen lacked disciplined direction. They 'rattled,' and worked well individually, but not collectively or to a definite point—and there you are."

Whatever the unfortunate causes producing the calamity of the Ancient Capital, the heart-rending completeness of the effect is all too apparent. The drearily black expanse of wreck-encumbered business sites told their own story, even after the passage of a week, to the Victoria excursionists yesterday. The fire mowed cleanly, so far as advantageous structures go, the city site from a little to the east of fourth street, the exact boundary being the Begbie block and Queen's hotel, to the Cleveland hotel and the Royal City mills, on the extreme west. The streets along which for about seven blocks—or three quarters of a mile of their length—the fire swept, were Front, Columbia, Clarkson, Victoria, Carnarvon, Agnes and Royal avenue, the fire stopping between the latter residential thoroughfare and Queen's avenue. The cross streets devastated were Tenth, Eighth, Lorne, Mackenzie, Seventh, Sixth and Fourth, and to give a local illustration of this area, one can approximate what the business section of Victoria would resemble were every building to be obliterated within the area of Humboldt, Wharf, Cormorant and Quadra streets—only be it remembered that the proportion of this great square to the total area of Victoria is infinitely less than was the burned district to the whole of New Westminster.

It is an uncanny thing, but it illustrates the completeness of the Royal City's demolition, to consider how much easier it is to count the business establishments that remain than to attempt enumeration of those that have been swept away. The former is an easy task, for the list includes but eight—J. R. Brennan's Telegraph hotel, H. Harvey's general store, and the Ontario Packing Co.'s cannery, on Front street; Alexander Hamilton's marble-cutting works, on Columbia; the Cleveland hotel, Robert Evans, proprietor, at the other extreme end of this thoroughfare; and the Royal City and Pacific Coast mills. The old mill wharf of the Brackman & Ker Co., with the unoccupied Queen's hotel and Burr block, added to these, make up the sum total of the permanent business properties left to the once splendidly constructed city.

Of course, the enterprise that makes and maintains cities did not permit the Westminsterites to suspend business for more than a day, even if all adequate premises were swept out of existence. In their place there rose within 24 hours a miniature Skagway of tents and knockdowns, facing the streets that bound the city hall square, the names upon this honor roll of the commercially courageous being: Joseph Richenbach, butcher; D. Walker, barber; Gifford, jeweler; Mason & Lamb, jewelers; Kirk, tinware and stove merchant; H. Morey & Co., books and stationery; Charles Welch, grocer; Sinclair & Co., boots and shoes; F. Jackson, printer; H. L. DeBeck, clothier; McRae, tailor; T. S. Annandale, grocer; George Adams, grocer; J. D. McGregor, boots and shoes; Walter Chamberlain, jeweler; H. Hughes, restaurant; S. Swan, baker; Parnell & Gunn, grocers; and Allen & Sullivan, tailors. These made up the first day openings after the fire at the square; while Turner, Hart & Co., insurance and realty agents, with D. S. Curtis & Co., druggists, secured quarters in the Burr block; and the Banks of Montreal and British Columbia quickly adapted themselves to ramshackle residential premises on upper Columbia street. Miss Maude Ratcliffe, in the illness of her employer, W. H. Brown, of the Westminster tea store, had workmen cooling the ashes before noon on Monday, preparatory to the planting of a business tent on the corner of Third and Columbia streets; while the professional men found office quarters in the residential districts—the lawyers without their libraries, and the doctors missing their instruments. An oddity of the relocation of premises was the difficulty experienced by many, even of the "old inhabitants," in determining the site of their former possessions. Directories obtained from Vancouver were brought into service, and pacing out the distance from recognized and familiar landmarks was a familiar sight of the day after the fire.

Of the conflagration itself the following is perhaps the best description that has yet been given, pencilled as it was by the News-Advertiser correspondent, who followed the firemen from the Terminal City at the first call for help:

"At 2:30 a.m. the fire was at its highest; houses and blocks were falling in every direction, and buildings were caught by the fire and covered in a sheet of flame, every minute, till Front, Columbia and Agnes streets and the south side of Royal avenue were nothing but a furnace, sending forth a body of flame a hundred feet high, with fierce tongues of fire spurting out in every direction, while above all were showers of sparks, being carried in every direction by the high wind. The scene from above Royal avenue was one never to be erased from memory; in front was the awful mass of flames, extending in every direction; house after house was still falling victim to the raging element; behind myriads of sparks were falling, and on every roof were seen people with pails and ladders, endeavoring to prevent their homes from catching fire. All around, in every open space, on every street and in nearly all the gardens were strewn furniture, bedding, clothing and numerous household effects, all of which had frequently to be saturated with water to prevent the sparks setting fire to them. Men were busy with pick and axe, cutting away the sidewalks which were carrying the fire along the roads. Telephone and electric light wires were falling in every direction. From sewer traps, hundreds of feet from the fire, columns of smoke were pouring out, and every few minutes a whirlwind would tear along the street, collecting smoke, sparks, ashes and dust in its course and whirling all around with tremendous force. In the midst of all this chaos, men and women were carrying their goods and chattels out of the reach of the fire fiend; wagons and express carts were conveying furniture, safes, etc., up the hill. On the right a man was seen dipping a cloth into an open drain and sprinkling the water over a collection of goods covered with a carpet; other men were carrying pails of water to shower over their goods, and many were quietly stamping out the larger sparks and lighted pieces of wood that were falling on the sidewalks and all around. One or two people passed by with faces, hands or clothes more or less burnt, and on the outskirts a few were trying to force their way down the burning streets to reach the water. Everything was quiet, no shouting, crying or panic was seen or heard in the crowds of burnt-out and almost destitute people. They only appeared intent on saving what they had been able to secure from their destroyed homes, and watched with a kind of inquisitive face the terrible havoc made by their unrelenting foe, and quietly wondered when the conflagration would burn itself out. The fire started at 11:15 p.m., and by 3:30 a.m. it had enwrapped the entire business portion of the city, enclosing within its area ten distinct streets. It then became evident that it had reached its limit. The houses were becoming more scattered, and the wind dropped somewhat, and by 5 a.m., only a few chimney stacks and several gaunt skeletons of stone and brick blocks were left to mark the centre of industry, shipping, law and administration, the Royal City of British Columbia."

There were innumerable peculiarities about this as all other great conflagrations that challenge attention and invite consideration. The fire, once well started, moved not in leaping flames but in bodies of fire hurling themselves now this way and now that, as though impelled by one mysterious but invincible force. Then the phenomena chronicled during the great Chicago fire presented itself—the tremendous heat appeared to generate combustible gases many feet above the height limit of the leaping flames, and these gases igniting poured themselves downward to communicate destruction to buildings and blocks of buildings unscathed by actual contact with the burning material. It is most probable that the gases were not an actuality but that the course of the upward mounting hot air was merely diverted by contact with some cold air current and by it impelled backward, to complete its devastating mission. Another puzzling eccentricity of the great fire was the simultaneous appearance of flames on roofs and in the very foundations of the buildings, this possibly being ascribable to the descending bodies of fire above referred to, and to the flames travelling along the natural conductors, the sidewalks, up the hillsides and into the cellars of the buildings placed tier above tier backward from the waterfront.

These sidewalks were literally licked up, and where they had been, in the light of morning were seen paths of greyish-brown dust, exactly as though a long strip of carpet had been rolled up after long service but curiously leaving rows of fire-rusted nails standing out of the ashes in unbroken regularity. The oddity here presented was as much a sight for the early visitors as were the fantastically twisted telegraph and telephone wires festooning the grey-black streets, or pendant like giant cobwebs from the scarred shell of some once stately structure of brick and stone. The permanency of materials is no guarantee when once a fire assumes large proportions, and it is still another contradictory absurdity that the solid stone of Trinity cathedral seems to have been even less impediment to the progress of the fire than the wooden Methodist church—the former structure was levelled as completely as though taken stone by stone; the latter is still an identifiable ruin.

The destructiveness of the fire to stocks and household goods was due first to the unanticipated extent of its range; and then to its unexampled ferocity. Half of the goods consumed were safely removed from the premises originally sheltering them to what was regarded as safe distance, but so rapidly did the devouring element advance that after one, two, three or even four movings, each more difficult than the last, belongings had finally to be abandoned to the fate that seemed irresistible. Some idea may be formed of the heat when it is remembered that windows cracked with explosive reports many blocks away; the iron pillars of buildings and even steel car rails ran into molten masses; and in many instances buildings fell from the intensity of the heat even before the fire had been actually communicated to them. Many remarkable instances of escape were naturally recorded, not the least interesting being that of Mr. Armstrong's handsome residence, which was saved solely and entirely through the use of several barrels of a chemical preparation that had been mixed as a spray for infected fruit trees. This, although it was not known before, contains many of the properties of chemical fire extinguishers, thanks to which interesting scientific fact, Mr. Armstrong and his family have a roof over their heads to-day, although the trees in the orchard are ruined, and the baked apples have dropped from their fire-stripped branches.

The superstitious find many little incidents about the fire to furnish food for their reflections—the tolling of the bell, the hoisting of the black flag with its grim emblem of death—and by the way if this was raised as a schoolboy prank by half a score of home young folk, is it not strange that no hint of their identity has yet been given—the stopping of the fire at the sign of the cross, and the scatheless passage from the flames of the city drinking fountain, which—the central object amid the wreck—looks for all the world like a neat new tombstone placed to mark the pivot point of the desolation.

Aside from the contributions in cash and kind to the various agencies of relief, the equally prompt service rendered by the C. P. R. and by the locally represented banks should not for a moment be lost sight of. It is said that corporations have no souls, and this being so, the C. P. R. presents itself as an illustration of the exception to prove the truth of the general rule. Not only was the railway corporation one of the first and the largest subscribers in cash to the relief fund but its wrecking crew, intelligently directed, was at work early on the blue Monday morning, destroying the shaking shells of buildings that threatened fatalities in their collapse; while even before the tents of the military could be requisitioned and supplied, a number of coaches had been sent in over the rails from Vancouver, to afford comfortable and convenient shelter for those most in need. It will be many long days before New Westminster recovers her former place and position; it should be longer yet by far when she forgets the prompt and very generous and timely assistance rendered by the C. P. R. in the hour of emergency.

The banks, too, have done a very great deal toward enabling the Royal City business men to recover themselves, both the Bank of British Columbia and the Bank of Montreal having extended such credit as required by their patrons, and without which many would have been unable to enter the battle for another trial with fate. Thus assisted, business life in the Royal City is once more flowing into its normal channels, while the thread of preparation for the big fair has again been taken up, if not with enthusiasm, at least with confidence of success.

It is a grimly humorous coincidence that the great and crowning feature of the show will be, as originally intended—"a pyrotechnic display surpassing in magnitude anything heretofore seen in the province of British Columbia."

CARNARVON STREET—WITH RUINS OF CITY HALL.

COLUMBIA STREET—LOOKING WEST.

DIOCESAN FUND HELPED.

Westminster Fire Relieves the Anglican Church of Unproductive Property —Cathedral a Great Loss.

New Westminster, Sept. 17.—(Special) The Episcopal endowment fund at Westminster has been put in better shape by the fire. Buildings that the church fund was getting little or no rent for have been burned by which they receive $6,500 in insurance of buildings destroyed and some $12,000 will be got by the sale of sites cleared by the fire. Some of the property that is left is enhanced in value. The depreciating of the endowment fund is in net result considerable. Before the fire matters were almost hopeless; they are now looking bright so far as the endowment fund is concerned, though the loss to the fund by New Westminster investments will be at least $10,000.

The destruction of the cathedral, however, is a very serious loss to the parish of Holy Trinity, as the building and bells were only insured for $7,500 and the total loss is at least $20,000. It is thought possible that the new cathedral will be built on a site further up the town, instead of in the confined and inconvenient hollow in which by an error of judgment, the old structure was located. Some opposition to the proposal to remove the church is, however, manifested by a few old timers who have sentimental associations with the site of the barn-like stone building destroyed, which after all, resembled a cathedral in name and episcopal association only.

FOUR FIRMS VICTIMIZED.

A Young Man Passes Forged Checks on Victoria Business Men.

A. D. Benton, or rather a young man who gave that as his name, has left the city with something like $68 which he got out of four business firms of the city by an old trick. On Thursday afternoon after banking hours he took four checks, alleged to be signed by A. W. More & Co. and payable to "A. D. Benton" to four different firms and buying small orders, received the change in cash. Each check was for $18 and all were accepted without hesitation, although the signature was a poor imitation. From Messrs. Sheed Bros. he got a pound of tea and $17.50 in cash; from the Victoria Book and Stationery Co. a dollar's worth of stationery and $17 in cash; from the B. C. Market 65 cents' worth of meat and $17.35 in cash and from Dixi H. Ross & Co. a dollars' worth of sugar and $17 in cash.

As soon as the checks were presented at the banks yesterday the forgery was discovered, but the "bird had already flown," he presumably having left on the City of Kingston in the morning.

The forger is described as a young well dressed man.

MONEY STILL COMING

Substantial Sums Are Being Added Daily to the Fire Relief Fund.

The Subscriptions From All Sources Are Close to Nine Thousand Dollars.

Collections Still Coming in Well Chinese Assistance to Their Unfortunate Compatriots.

Victoria's contributions to the Westminster relief fund has reached over $8,600 last night from all sources, though there are some contributions which could not be estimated, such as the clothes and provisions sent through the Friendly Help Society and other similar contributions sent up through private sources and not appearing on the public lists. It looks, therefore, as if Victoria will send an amount that will pass the $10,000 mark for still subscriptions continue to come in well and the collectors have not yet finished up their rounds in the city.

Among the subscriptions yesterday was one sent to the City hall by the Royal Engineers, while last night a check for $57 was sent to the Colonist with the following letter from the Barracks:

"I have much pleasure in enclosing a check for $57, being a donation from the officers, non-commissioned officers and men of the Royal Marine Artillery stationed here to your fund for the relief of sufferers from the recent fire at New Westminster.

"GEO. BARNES,
"Capt. R. M. A."

Westminster's appreciation of what Victoria's people are doing to help out the fire sufferers is voiced in a telegram received yesterday by Mayor Redfern from the Mayor of Westminster:

"Please convey the thanks of the corporation to the Ladies' Friendly Help Society for their very generous help in aid of the fire sufferers. Money will be very badly needed and I think it will be better to send over what amount is available for disposal by the relief board. Thanks for your very kind wishes and valuable assistance on behalf of the sufferers.

THOS. OVENS,
"Mayor."

All donations of clothing or provisions to be sent to the Westminster relief fund through the Friendly Help Association should be at the Market hall this morning before 11 o'clock.

The following are yesterday's subscriptions:

SOUTH PARK SCHOOL.

Proceeds of Concert	$ 155.05

THE COLONIST.

Acknowledged	$1,633.50
W. J. Pendray	50.00
Capt. D. Morrison	5.00
Charles Steers	1.00
Employees Colonist P. & P. Co.	49.00
B. C. Development Association, per Walter Townsend	25.00
H. Hirschel Cohen	100.00
J. W. Mellor	10.00
Mrs. Pemberton	25.00
Miss H. S. Pemberton	10.00
Royal Marine Artillery	57.00
Total	$1,965.50

CITY HALL.

Already acknowledged	$ 479.50
F. Page	1.50
Mrs. Caroline Wilson	5.00
Geo. Glover	2.50
J. Bendrodts	5.00
W. Walker	2.50
Spring Ridge School	.50
Total	$ 496.50

COLLECTED BY THE MAYOR.

Previously Acknowledged	$ 40.00
E. C. Baker	10.00
Victoria Pilots	20.00
V. & E. Telephone Co	20.00
Total	$ 95.00

COLLECTED BY ALD. McGREGOR AND CHIEF DEASY.

Previously acknowledged	$ 95.00
Albion Iron Works stoves valued at	130.00
Victoria Shoe Co., Ltd., shoes valued at	40.00
Victoria Yukon Trading Co.	10.00
G. Schmitt	5.00
Brown Jug Saloon	5.00
Harry Berryman	2.00
L. F. Banman	2.00
Mrs. Babchuck	.50
Hyland & Hafer	2.50
James Maynard	1.00
S. Shore	2.50
Dawes & Ruckhaber	2.00
B. Arranson	.50
Prince of Wales Saloon	5.00
J. Bray	1.00
J. H. Gardes	2.50
R. G. Sinclair	2.00
Grand Pacific Saloon	5.00
W. Peppas	1.50
A. Lipsky	3.00
A. Briggs	2.00
E. J. Salmon	3.00
A. Adelson	.50
E. Holtz	2.50
C. Papenvitch	2.00
A. J. Clyde	2.00
L. F.	2.00
W. White	1.00
A Friend	2.50
E. H. Pichon	1.50
Sing Lee	2.50
Wing Lee	2.50
Wing Mow Coey	1.00
Quong Fun Song Co.	1.00
Dr. Yen Kee	2.00
Sing Lee	5.00
J. Charlie Bros.	1.00
Sim Kee	1.00
On Hing	2.00
E. H. Anderson	4.00
On Wo	2.50
Chaney & Co.	2.00
Fuji & Co.	1.00
Kong Sing Wing	2.00
Sing Lee	2.00
Sing Cheng	1.00
Total	$ 790.00

DISTRICT NO. 6.

Already Acknowledged	$ 24.50
J. Adams	1.00
J. Stewart	1.00
W. Sutherland	.50
R. Maynard	2.50
C. N. Cameron	1.00
J. G. Brown	1.00
J. Dwyer	2.50
Mrs. Baumgart	1.00
Sergeant Hawton	2.00
T. Preece	1.00
W. Reddut	1.00
Farquahan Macrae	10.00
Raby Bros.	1.00
W. H. Huxtable	2.00
H. H. Macdonald	2.50
J. Waid	2.50
R. T. Elliott	2.50
A Friend's Mite	1.00
J. Leahy	1.00
A. Garland	.25
J. M. Sweeny	.50
R. Hicks	.50
Johns Bros.	10.00
Mrs. K. J. Soper	.25
A Friend	.50
A Friend	1.00
A Friend	1.00
A. Thomas	1.00
Mr. Few	.50
R. F. John	2.50
Mr. Fossum	2.00
Mr. Turnbull	1.00
R. Dinsdale	2.50
Mrs. Weller	.50
D. F. Fee	1.00
A Friend	1.50
Mrs. Therriault	1.00
J. P. Pelletier	5.00
W. Mable	2.00
Total	$ 97.00

DISTRICT NO. 8.

Collected by Rev. D. McRae, assisted by Mrs. McLennan and Misses Willard and Watson.

A Friend	$ 25.00
R. J. Russell	10.00
D. McRae	3.00
J. D. P. Knox	1.00
Miss Thorpe	.50
Miss Gladding	.50
Mrs. Todd	.25
Mrs. Higgitt	.50
Mrs. Fred Harper	.50
Mrs. McDonald	1.00
A Friend	1.00
Mrs. Sheele	.50
Mr. and Mrs. Thos. Reid	5.00
Mary Watson	1.00
T. P. Watson	6.00
Mrs. Foster	.50
A Friend	.50
Mrs. T. H. Brown	1.00
Mrs. Monk	.50
A Friend	.50
Mrs. Matthewson	.50
Mrs. Capt. Owen	.50
Mrs. A. McDougal	1.00
A. Whetstone	2.00
A Friend	.25
Miss Duncan	.50
Mrs. Cosford	.25
Mrs. Jones	.25
Mrs. Warner	1.00
A Friend	.50
H. Mackay	1.00
C. W. Kirk	1.00
A Friend	.25
Mr. Leigh	2.00
Mr. Cotsford	2.00
D. Mackintosh	2.50
Mrs. W. D. McIntosh	1.00
M. Dunnett	1.00
D. McLennan	1.00
Mrs. Bruce	1.00
Total	$ 53.50

BANK OF MONTREAL.

Already acknowledged	$ 25.00
O. S. Rendall	5.00
Total	$ 30.00

BANK OF B. C.

J. E. Painter	$ 2.50

TIMES LIST.

Already Acknowledged	$ 227.00
W. J. Hanna	5.00
T. P.	5.00
Captain William Grant	15.00
P. S. Lampman	2.50
Robert Mason	2.50
Total	$ 257.00

ROYAL ENGINEERS.

Lieut.-Colonel A. Grant	$ 10.00
Lieutenant G. C. E. Elliott	5.00
Sergeant-Major J. McArthur	2.00
Supt. Clerk T. H. Tennent	3.00
Qr. Mr. Sergt. G. Reeve	3.00
Sergeant F. Guest	2.00
Corporal J. Gabriel	1.00
Second Corporal R. Jenkinson	1.00
Lance Corporal H. D. Stewart	1.00
Lance Corporal W. T. Phillips	1.00
Sapper E. A. Baker	1.00
Sapper T. G. Brooks	1.00
Sapper H. Burge	1.00
Sapper T. Castle	.50
Sapper W. Coombes	1.00
Sapper H. Gildlow	1.00
Sapper W. Greensted	1.00
Sapper C. Hanbury	1.00
Sapper E. Jenkins	1.00
Sapper W. Shepherd	1.00
Sapper A. E. Smith	1.00
Sapper H. Sutherland	1.00
Sapper W. Sweet	1.00
Sapper F. J. Townsend	1.00
Sapper A. Thomas	1.00
Total	$ 44.50

ROYAL ARTILLERY.

2nd Class Master Gr. A. J. Wild	$ 3.00

ARMY ORDNANCE CORPS.

Armament Qr. Mr. Sgt. W. A. Higgitt	$ 1.00

ROYAL ARMY MEDICAL CORPS.

Corporal W. Chapman	$ 1.00

R. E. CIVILIAN STAFF.

Mr. A. J. Dresser	$ 5.00
Mr. W. Prevost	$ 2.00

CIVILIAN EMPLOYES R. E. WORKS.

C. Jordan	$ 1.00
G. Longman	1.00
W. Jones	1.00
M. Bleiro	.50
J. Neale	.50
S. Lawrence	.50
R. Dunne	1.00
W. Boyce	.50
M. Blatchford	2.00
H. Laurie	2.00
W. Cormack	1.00
J. Blatchford	1.00
J. Grant	1.00
P. Neary	1.00
T. Roberts	1.00
P. Martin	1.00
E. Lester	1.00
J. Johnston	.50
J. Burley	.50
A. Sanders	1.00
H. Cox	1.00
Ah Doo	1.00
Ah Joe	1.00
Yick Hang	1.00
Ah Jim	.50
Ah Four	.50
Total	$ 24.00

ABSTRACT.

Royal Engineers	$ 44.50
Royal Artillery	3.00
Army Ordnance Corps	1.00
Royal Army Medical Corps	1.00
Royal Engineer Civil Staff	7.00
Civilian Employes Royal Engineer works	24.00
Total	$ 80.50

The children of the girls' Central School have subscribed $50 for the relief of the little sufferers by the New Westminster fire. The amount will be forwarded to the relief committee by Miss Williams, the principal of the school.

AMOUNT COLLECTED BY THE B. C. BOARD OF TRADE.

Bennett Lake & Klondike Navigation Co.	$ 100.00
F. B. Pemberton	25.00
A. J. C. Galletly	25.00
F. C. Davidge Co.	25.00
Weller Bros.	20.00
W. H. Bone	10.00
Erskine, Wall & Co.	10.00
P. McQuade & Son	10.00
F. Elworthy	10.00
Chas. Hayward	10.00
C. D. Mason	10.00
E. B. Marvin & Co.	10.00
Richard Hall	10.00
Hon. Fred Peters	10.00
Edw. Palmer	10.00
Brackman & Ker Milling Co.	10.00
Arthur Robertson	10.00
T. S. Futcher	5.00
E. M. Johnson	5.00
T. Luhbe	5.00
J. H. Escolme	5.00
A. Brenchley	5.00
Thos. Shotbolt	5.00
C. R. Kay	5.00
J. C. Voss	5.00
M. R. Smith & Co.	5.00
Geo. L. Courtney	5.00
W. J. R. Cowell	1.00
F. W. Vincent	2.00
S. D. Schults	1.00
C. W. R.	1.00
Friend	1.00
Friend	1.00

The members of Colfax Rebekah degree lodge have given $25 to the Sisters of Rebekah in Westminster.

Additional donations received at the Friendly Help society's rooms for the fire relief fund are: Clothing, Agenoria society, Mrs. Tiarks, Mrs. Harrington, Mrs. B. Seabrook, Mrs. Eberts, Miss Williams, Mrs. Lyall, Mrs. Wall (15 suits men's and youths' clothing and three ladies' jackets), Mrs. Lambert, Mrs. McQuade, Mrs. Norris, Mrs. Cameron, Mrs. H. Moss, Mrs. Bone and ladies of Centennial church, Mrs. John Teague, Mrs. J. D. Moore, A Friend, Mrs. R. Robertson, Mrs. Kermode, Mrs. Vigor, Miss Daniels, Mrs. Thompson, Mrs. F. G. Walker; large box of new shoes, Victoria Shoe Co.; clothing and groceries, Spring Ridge school children; crib, Mrs. Norris.

MANITOBA CONTRIBUTES.

Winnipeg, Sept. 17.—(Special)—At a meeting of the Manitoba cabinet to-day it was decided to vote $1,000 to the fire sufferers in New Westminster.