

MR. DAVIES' ADDRESS.

Minister of Marine and Fisheries Delivers a Speech to the Liberals.

People of Both Parties Form the Large Audience at A.O.U.W. Hall.

The people of Victoria had an opportunity last night at the public meeting in the A.O.U.W. hall to hear an address from Hon. L. H. Davies, minister of marine and fisheries.

Mr. George Kiley, president of the Liberal Association, who occupied the chair, opened the meeting with some laudatory remarks in respect to the success of the Liberals at the last election.

The address itself was laudatory of the Liberal party and complimented the Minister on the accession of his party to power, with a touch of regret at the fact of Victoria being still true to the Conservatives.

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Speaker remarked that it would not be right at one swoop to do away with protection. The Liberal policy was, however, not to levy a tax for any protective purpose, but for revenue only.

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THE CITY

Mrs. W. H. Hulbert of Cedar Hill, who for a long time past has been a patient victim of paralysis, died yesterday at the family residence on Cedar Hill road. The deceased was a native of Winterton, Gloucester, England, and was 67 years of age.

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COWICHAN-ALBERNI.

Meeting of Electors Held in Agricultural Hall, Duncan, on Tuesday.

The People's Railroad-Government Bridge Inspection-Mining Claims.

A meeting of the electors of Cowichan-Alberni Electoral District was held in the Agricultural Hall, Duncan, on Tuesday, December 8th. It was called to order at 2 p.m., and on the motion of Mr. W. C. Duncan, seconded by Captain E. Barkley, the reverend Mr. T. A. Wood, was voted to the chair, Mr. W. E. Blythe secretary.

The chairman briefly explained the reasons for calling the meeting, and gave a short review of the various subjects to be dealt with, viz., the people's railroad, the Government bridge inspection, the Cowichan-Alberni trail, the Cowichan River mining claims on E. & N. lands, and blue jays (destruction caused by), and the Public School.

It was moved by Mr. W. Ford, seconded by Capt. E. Barkley: "That, whereas the people in this section of the province have experienced the evils attending the bonusing of railroad companies by means of land grants and money, and the consequences attending the public having no voice in or control over the rates charged, notwithstanding the fact of their having provided a very large proportion of the capital in cash and land, towards building the railroad; be it therefore resolved that this meeting do request the provincial government themselves to undertake the construction and equipment and to have the railroad financed in honor of the Kootenay, which railroad is in the opinion of this meeting an urgent necessity for the advancement of the province, and this meeting further request their representatives in the legislative assembly to see that the same in this respect are kept prominently before the house."

Capt. E. Barkley spoke in support of the resolution, instancing the Esquimalt & Nanaimo railway, where land policy is well calculated to deter any settler or miner having anything to do with lands under their control.

Mr. W. C. Duncan, seconded by Mr. H. Herd: "That, whereas the province of British Columbia assisted largely in building the E. & N. railway by land grants and money, notwithstanding having furnished the above capital have no voice in its management, and we are suffering from the neglect of the same, and in the opinion of this meeting an urgent necessity should be taken at the earliest possible moment to acquire possession of the said railroad and run it in the interests of the province."

Mr. Evans spoke in support of the resolution, and after some discussion the motion was put to the meeting and carried.

It was moved by Mr. W. H. Elkington, seconded by Capt. E. Barkley: "That, as recent events have shown the necessity for the appointment of a government official to inspect the public works in the province, both railroad and wagon, therefore this meeting request their representatives to urge the government to take steps in this matter."

paid for mineral claims situated in the E. & N. Ry. belt. Mining development in this section of the province being on account of the uncertainty attending the want of the above particulars. This meeting would further request the government to use their offices with the E. & N. Ry. to induce them to settle some terms whereby they would permit the mining of the baser metals on their lands, and have these terms made public; and our representatives are hereby requested to urge the government to act promptly in this matter.

The Chairman, Mr. Price, and several other gentlemen, spoke strongly in favor of this resolution, which was endorsed by the meeting, and was carried unanimously.

It was moved by Mr. J. N. Evans, seconded by Mr. T. A. Wood: "That, whereas in the opinion of this meeting, the blue jay is one of the most destructive pests infesting this district; whereas the municipality of North Cowichan are giving a bounty of 25 cents per dozen for the destruction of same, therefore this meeting requests the provincial government to offer a like bounty in the other portion of Cowichan district, and request their representatives to lay this matter fully before the house."

This motion, after some discussion, was carried.

The consideration of the school act, owing to the lateness of the hour, was deferred to another occasion. After a vote of thanks had been passed to the chairman and secretary the meeting adjourned.

Secretary of meeting.

AN IMPORTANT OCCASION

On Thursday evening, in connection with the Congregational church, Pandora was a most pleasing and interesting ceremony took place—the first in order of events being the presentation to Miss Graham, the organizer of a purse containing a neat little sum of money, the spontaneous gift of the members of the choir and congregation. The presentation was made by the pastor in a complimentary speech, and was acknowledged by Mr. Scowcroft on behalf of the recipient.

THE DEFENCE OFFERED.

Counsel for the United States Present Evidence Against the "Carolina" Claim.

A Hunter of That Schooner Places a Low Estimate on Her Value.

The taking of evidence for the United States in the case of the British claim on account of the seizure of the schooner Carolina was begun yesterday. Before the first witness for the defence was examined, Hon. Mr. Peters produced the list of extracts from the American newspaper mentioned the previous day and offered the same objections as before by the United States were again raised. Some of the extracts were finally admitted by the commissioners and the others withdrawn.

Hon. Mr. Dickinson next stated that when William Munroe was being examined the name of John Cosford had been mentioned as one of the hunters on the Carolina. The United States had secured the name of the witness. The British side might call him if they pleased.

Hon. Mr. Peters explained that the British counsel had not had opportunity of finding out what Mr. Cosford's evidence would be, so that it would be better for the United States to use him as their witness.

John Cosford stated that, though now a resident of Seattle, he had formerly lived in Victoria, and his family were still here. He had been a hunter on the Carolina in 1880, having been engaged by Mr. Munroe. Mr. Cosford being also present when the arrangements were made. Bechtel went up as far as Clayoquot on the Carolina when she started for Behring Sea in 1880, and Mr. Bechtel also did the driving of the canoes from the Indians, the cost being from \$10 to \$15. The Carolina began sealing in Behring Sea about July 1, and witness understood that Captain Ogilvie had intended to leave the Sea about August 23rd. He heard that the schooner that if they stayed longer the provisions would get short; he did not know, however, how this rumor arose.

After the hearing was seized and taken to Unalakleet the crew were allowed to go ashore, half at a time, but afterwards were allowed to go ashore as they pleased. He put the number of seal caught in Behring Sea by the Carolina at 600 or 640. In cross-examination by Hon. Mr. Peters the witness said he did not know what quantities of provisions were on the Carolina and he had not seen Mr. Bechtel pay over the money for the canoes to the Indians at Clayoquot.

A. J. Bechtel was next called and asked about his ownership of the schooner San Diego, for the purpose of proving that the register made with the customs both at San Francisco and in Victoria that Bechtel was a United States citizen in 1886.

Hon. Mr. Peters objected that the documents were only secondary proof; but after some argument the documents were received, subject to objections at the final argument.

Capt. Alex. McLean, who has been connected with the sealing industry since 1883, was next examined as to the value of sealing vessels. He had been in the Behring seas on the Favor in 1886 and in 1887 was captain of the Mary Ellen. His opinion was that about August 20 was the usual close of the sealing season in Behring sea. The witness said that he had something of the value of sealing vessels in 1885, and gave \$1,700 as what he would have estimated the Carolina to be worth in 1885, after she had been repaired and lengthened. In 1886 most of the sealing vessels that came to Victoria were from San Francisco, and could be built there new for \$100 a ton.

THE KING OF PHIS IS BECHTAL—BECHTAL'S wife and two children.

TORONTO, Dec. 11.—The second daughter of the late Hon. George Brown, Miss Catherine Edith, was married in Edinburgh to George Sandoman.

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