

NEW VANCOUVER COAL CO.—BUNKERS

when this is so the city must necessarily advance.

DOUBLE-TRACKED STREETS.

Big Improvement in This Aspect Was Inaugurated This Year.

During the past ten months the B. C. Electric Railway Company have certainly carried on their share of those improvements that may be termed among the conspicuous. As the various operations instituted by them a considerable number of men have found employment and in itself is an important feature.

It has a frontage of 31 feet on Catherine street, and double that distance on Edward street. It is of brick, solidly constructed, and is there to stay. Its construction was commenced in the latter portion of spring, and completed during the summer. It is well equipped, and its erection filled a long-felt want in the community.

SWIMMING BATH

Was Successfully Conducted During the Summer—It Was Largely Patronized.

During the summer months there was conducted on the Arm an institution, in which many of the younger generation of this city were taught the nautical science. This consisted of a swimming bath designed by Ian St. Clair, athletic instructor in the city schools.

CITY HALL RENOVATED.

Six Hundred Dollars Was Expended on Repairs in Municipal Headquarters.

There is another item of improvement which, although not a conspicuous one, is worthy of a place among those covered by this article. That is the recent renovation of the municipal headquarters.

by the B. C. Electric Railway Company this year may be conceived from the fact that between \$60,000 and \$70,000 was expended on various works during this time.

FIRE DEPARTMENT ALSO.

New Hall in Victoria West Gives Unbounded Satisfaction—Adequate Protection.

Situated on the crest of a hill on the corner of Edward and Catherine streets, the new Victoria West fire hall commends itself at first glance as one of the most vitally important improvements of the present year.

NAVAL AND MILITARY.

Large Amount of Work Instituted on This Station This Year—New Rifle Range.

If there is any student mathematician in these parts who would like to indulge in what journalists designate a "pipe dream," a most interesting problem would be the computation of the effect upon this city of such a contingency as the removal of the naval and military base to some other quarter.

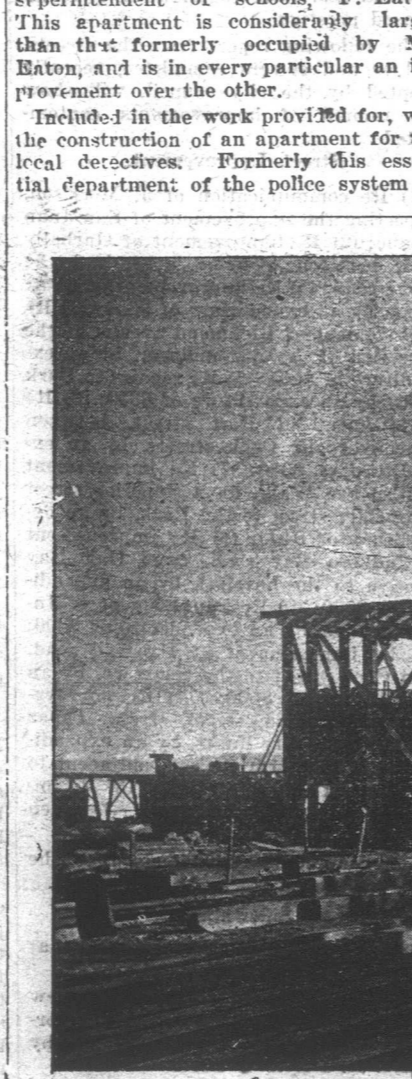
THE SHIPPING WORLD.

Evidence of Good Times in the City's Marine Activity.

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hundred dollars was expended in the work. The interior was reallocated, and some of the apartments, including that of the city clerk's, repainted.

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be a great convenience to the "handy men" and soldiers who use it. Among the many important works that have been initiated during the present year, few, when completed, will give greater satisfaction than the rifle range.

CONCLUSION.

In the foregoing an attempt has been made to outline the various lines along which the city has developed during the year.

Along the water front evidences of the general state of prosperity that has struck the city are to be found. Ship carpenters have never had a busier year. They have been in demand at home and abroad, and have been offered the biggest wages ever paid on the coast for work to be done in the Far North.

This was during last spring and the work of clearing the site—consisting of between five and six acres—was immediately commenced. Operations on the new quarters were instituted in other portions of the building, while the former office of the chief of the fire department, in the western wing of the edifice, was re-erected, and became the office of the city superintendent of schools, F. Eaton.

This time last year the old marine hospital across the harbor was the picture of desolation. Hardly a soul was visible on the premises, for months at a time it was vacant, and many persons did not know that it was being used.

Now it is the scene of perennial activity and animation, and the transformation has placed in circulation about \$2,500 a month more than there was before "A" Company, 3rd R. C. L., was established there.

When it became an assured fact that Colonel McKay and his gallant men were to garrison Hospital Point, the construction of the building being situated, several hundred dollars being all that was required. The quarters are by no means all that could be desired, but they were the best that could be secured, and were made to suit the requirements.

The excellent facilities provided by the ways for the expeditions and speedy handling of vessels requiring repairs or cleaning and painting has been a big advertisement for the port, and scores of craft have come here for "hospital" treatment and have had hundreds, if not thousands, of dollars expended on them.

No better criterion of the growth of Victoria's commerce is obtainable than that furnished by the customs returns. The records of the past ten months, when compared with other years, show a marked advance over those of previous years, last September particularly being a red letter period in the history of the port.

The increase in the business of this city with the north has been phenomenal, and through the courtesy of the customs officials the Times is herewith permitted to present in tabulated form a statement of the complete returns of the port of Victoria during the past ten months, but also those of the Yukon district. These are as follows:

Table with columns: Year, Free, Imports, Duty. Data for 1900 and 1899.

Table with columns: Month, Free, Imports, Duty. Data for Victoria and Yukon districts from January to October 1900.

Victoria Returns. Table with columns: Duty, Free, Imports, Other Revs.

Other Revs. Table with columns: Month, Duty, Free, Imports.

Total Collections at Victoria. Table with columns: Total Collections at Victoria, Total Collections at Bennett, Grand Total.

Grand Total. Table with columns: Grand Total.

The return for the year up to the present, showing vessel, time of docking, tonnage, etc., are as follows:

Table with columns: Vessel, Tonnage, Days. Lists various ships and their arrival/departure dates.

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CUSTOMS FIGURES.

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which would otherwise have had no occasion to visit a British Columbia port. Combining this with the convenience of the locality, a vessel, coming north for orders or for a charter, finds this port preferable to all others on the Pacific northwest.

Despite the inclemency of the weather excellent progress has been made by Mr. Dinsdale and his staff of men. The operations are, of course, at present confined to Clover Point, and unfavorable weather seriously retards the work as this locality is perhaps the most exposed of any on this part of the Island.

All the necessary excavations have been made, and the retaining wall is now well under way. Observations of the manner in which this material feature of the new range is being constructed shows that the intention is that when completed it will be there to stay.

The question of appointing a caretaker to look after the range is being considered, and it is probable that representations will be made to that effect to the proper authorities. Wm. Humphrey is clerk of the works.

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New Wellington Coal. Washed Nuts. \$5.00 per ton. Sack and Lumps, \$6.50 per ton. Delivered to any part of the city.

KINGHAM & CO., 44 Fort Street. Telephone Call: wharf; 647. Office Telephone: 233.

Hotel Vernon. A new and well equipped Commercial Hotel. Fine reading rooms, first-class bar and billiard room.

New English Billiard Table. By Wright, London. Very fine dining rooms, first-class sample rooms, well heated and lighted.

Notice. Notice is hereby given that in virtue of the Act of the Dominion Parliament, 63 and 64 Victoria, chapter 103 and chapter 104, the name of the Merchants Bank of Halifax will be changed to

The Royal Bank of Canada. from and after the second day of January, 1901.

M. R. SMITH & CO.'S Dog Biscuits ARE THE BEST. Ask Your Grocer For Them.

Bulbs. Easter Lilies, Crocus, Narcissus, Tulips, Freesia, Hyacinth, etc. WM. DODDS, Royal Floral Nursery, 207 Fort St.

Proposal to Supply Tr. Wireless Telegraph. Voyage to (Associate London, Dec. 4—Signor Marconi is a wireless telegraph route from Great B. to enable voyagers messages throughout

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