

VANCOUVER CHAMBER OF MINES.

At the annual meeting of the Vancouver Chamber of Mines held in the Board of Trade Rooms on November 23rd it was unanimously decided to continue the existence of the Chamber notwithstanding the rather troubled financial experience of the past year and the hampered conditions under which it must operate during the immediate future. It was felt by those present, composed of the most eminent mining men in the Province, that the great need for information which an organization of this character could supply to the public and the financial world interested in mining was such that greater efforts should be undertaken to keep the Chamber going.

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Nichol Thompson, who reviewed the work of the Chamber for the past year and outlined some of its activities for the ensuing year if it was the sense of the meeting to continue the organization. After showing the relative importance of mining to the other industries of the Province, the speaker went on to state that the mines of this Province produced in 1913 over \$30,000,000 dollars, and while the number of men employed will probably not exceed 8,000 or 10,000 it is all more or less skilled labor, and is continuous throughout the year. Moreover, the British Columbia portion of the mineral production of the whole of Canada, according to published official records for the whole of the Dominion covering a period of 28 years from 1886 to 1913, places the aggregate for all Canada at \$1,521,000,000, which allows for 1913 a Dominion total of \$150,000,000, an amount nearly \$15,000,000 greater than that of 1912, and British Columbia's proportion for the same period is \$395,000,000, or 26 per cent. of the aggregate value of the mineral production of the whole of Canada; and it is a striking fact, as indicating the substantial increase in the value of the mineral production of the

province in recent years, as compared with that of twenty years ago, that nearly 35 per cent. of the \$395,000,000 mentioned above as the aggregate production for 28 years is to be credited to the last five years, from 1909 to 1913, while nearly 54 per cent. was produced during eight years from 1906 to 1913.

Mr. Thompson expressed the sentiment of the meeting when he voiced the regret that L. W. Shatford, M.P.P., had intimated that his business duties made it necessary to surrender the presidency, and whilst appreciating the great assistance he had rendered in supporting every interest of the Chamber, the members were very fortunate in obtaining the consent of Dr. Brock, late Dominion Deputy Minister of Mines and now Dean of the School of Applied Science of the University of British Columbia, to occupy the presidential chair for the coming year.

Other speakers took up the discussion of maintaining the Chamber during the present period of stringency, and finally a resolution was put and carried embodying this idea.

Mr James Ashworth, the treasurer, made his report showing a deficit of about \$600, which was being gradually extinguished, and new dues coming in would in some measure supply funds for the most pressing expenditures. Through the courtesy of the Board of Trade meetings and lectures could be held without expense to the Chamber, while the display of minerals of the Province would have to await the dawn of a happier day. Meanwhile the secretarial work would be carried on by the voluntary offering of the services of Mr. C. Hinde, chemical engineer.


The following officers and executive committee were elected:—

- President—Dr. R. W. Brock.
- First Vice-President—R. R. Hedley, M.E.
- Second Vice-President—Nichol Thompson.
- Treasurer—James Ashworth.
- Secretary—C. Hinde, Chem. Eng.

Executive Committee—

- L. W. Shatford, M.P.P.
- Noble W. Pirrie, M.E.
- F. J. Crossland, M.E.
- Andrew Larson, M.E.
- C. A. Cartwright, C.E.
- R. C. Campbell-Johnston
- Arthur Hepburn, M.E.
- J. Cunliffe, M.E.
- P. Rochussen, M.E.
- Dr. Bridgman.
- R. S. Lennie, K.C.
- A. M. McPhail, M.E.
- Gilbert Blair.
- W. A. Blair,
- J. O'Sullivan, F.C.S.
- D. Kennedy, M.E.

Mr. F. J. P. Gibson, formerly manager of the British Columbia Trust Corporation in Vancouver, died in London after a prolonged illness. He was an old resident and was at one time connected with the old Bank of British Columbia.



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