

KOOTENAY BOARDS OF TRADE

Joint Meeting for the Discussion of Questions of Vital Interest to the Mining Region.

When the joint convention of the boards of trade of Kootenay and the Boundary country met in Mr. J. S. C. Fraser's rooms over the Bank of Montreal, at 10 o'clock Thursday morning, it was decided to adjourn until noon. At 12 o'clock Mr. Fraser, president of the Rossland board, took the chair, and after a short address of welcome, the regular business of the meeting was taken up.

The delegates present at the opening of the proceedings were as follows: Messrs. M. G. O'Connell, Grand Forks, W. B. Cochran and Smith Curtis; Port Steele, J. A. Harvey; Cascade, Stanley Mayall; Revelstoke, T. L. Haig and J. T. Brewster; Trail, Col. E. S. Topping and W. H. Aldridge; Greenwood, A. J. McMillan and Duncan Ross, and Rossland, Hon. T. Mayne Daly and J. S. C. Fraser. Subsequently, during the afternoon session, Messrs. Rodrick Robertson and Frank Fletcher, and Messrs. G. O. Buchanan and H. Geringer, representing Nelson and Kaslo respectively, and Mr. E. J. Walsh of East Kootenay, arrived and took part in the proceedings.

Mr. Duncan Ross was appointed vice-chairman of the meeting. Mr. H. W. C. Jackson was appointed secretary of the organization, and Mr. Fred G. Moffatt was requested to act as assistant secretary. After some discussion as to procedure a committee composed of Messrs. Daly, McMillan, Haig and Harvey, was selected to prepare a report on procedure and organization and submit same at the afternoon session. After a number of valuable suggestions had been made for the consideration of the committee the convention adjourned until 3:30 to allow the special committee to prepare its report.

On the resuming of the convention in the afternoon, Hon. Mr. Daly presented the report of the committee referred to and seconded by Mr. McMillan, moved its adoption.

The report recommended that an association be formed to be known as the Associated Boards of Trade of Eastern British Columbia, the membership to be composed of two delegates from each of the boards of trade now existing or hereafter organized in the mining districts of Yale, East and West Kootenay and Cariboo. That the annual meeting of the association be held on the first Thursday in August, the place of next meeting to be decided by a majority vote at each annual meeting, emergency meetings to be called by the executive committee, who will decide time and place.

That the purpose of this organization shall be to discuss and take action upon all questions affecting the general welfare of the people residing within the jurisdiction of the association, and more particularly all matters affecting the mining industry, the officers of the board to consist of a president, two vice-presidents, secretary and an executive committee of six members representing the various mining districts, each board to pay an annual fee of \$15 for general expenses, each delegate present to have a vote.

The order of business and regulations for discussion were also provided. The report finally concludes with the following list of questions for the consideration of the present convention.

1. Whereas, There is in many parts of Kootenay and Yale urgent need for the construction of wagon roads and trails, in order that mining property at present inaccessible, may be reached and developed;

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And whereas, The immediate expenditure of a large amount of money, estimated for the county of Kootenay alone at \$1,000,000, in the construction of said roads and trails would be a judicious and remunerative investment;

And whereas, The present scale of appropriation for this service which the provincial government is able to afford, is barely sufficient for the repair of existing roads and is such as to give no warrant for the hope that within any reasonable time the needs of these districts which are now imperative and pressing, could be overtaken;

And whereas, The system under which provincial grants for road construction are expended is not such as to secure results commensurate with the outlay, but is inferior in economy and efficiency to a system under which such work would have the benefit of local supervision and control.

Therefore be it resolved, That it is the sense of this convention that provision should be made by provincial enactment for a form of county or district organization by which any of the counties or districts of the province shall be organized with such powers and duties as are devolved upon county municipalities in other provinces in Canada.

Mr. Buchanan said in support of the motion that the chief end sought by the resolution was to secure the roads that were so very urgently needed in every mining section of the province at the present time. A million dollars worth of roads was needed in Kootenay alone. The present system of attempting to obtain from the provincial government the necessary appropriations to construct roads to open up the districts, had broken down so completely that he had no further use for it. In his own immediate district of East Kootenay a much larger sum than that contributed, and when the government was asked for appropriation such totally inadequate aid was given that he for one was ready to break the existing partnership and try some other method. He was not wedded to a system of municipalities, but a better scheme was suggested, and he would support it. The speaker went very fully into the whole question, and concluded an eloquent appeal to the convention, with the suggestion that this resolution might prove a solution of the difficulties heretofore encountered. (Applause.)

Mr. Walsh agreed very heartily with the resolution, and said that the government allowance was all but exhausted in making repairs to existing roads. He suggested a toll system for revenue purposes, and hoped that the government would abandon deep sea prospects and attend to the road question.

When the Convention Reassembled on Friday All Delegates Were Present.

In speaking to the resolution offered by Mr. Buchanan for county organization Messrs. J. P. Farrell, Grand Forks, W. B. Cochran and Smith Curtis; Port Steele, J. A. Harvey; Cascade, Stanley Mayall; Revelstoke, T. L. Haig and J. T. Brewster; Trail, Col. E. S. Topping and W. H. Aldridge; Greenwood, A. J. McMillan and Duncan Ross, and Rossland, Hon. T. Mayne Daly and J. S. C. Fraser.

Whereas, There is in many parts of Kootenay, Yale and Cariboo urgent need for the construction of wagon roads and trails, in order that mining properties now being rapidly developed can be reached by pack trains and wagons so that machinery and supplies can be readily and cheaply got in to the same;

And whereas, The immediate expenditure of a large amount of money in the construction of said roads and trails, and the urgent necessity and need for a judicious and remunerative investment;

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Whereas, The attention of the Associated Boards of Trade of Eastern British Columbia has been directed to the irregularities in the mail service in various parts of the Kootenay and Yale district, to delay in securing adequate postal facilities for new and rapidly growing mining districts, to the insufficient salaries paid to the mail carriers in towns and cities which have sprung into prominence during recent years; to carelessness on the part of stage companies in having contracts for the conveyance of the mails, to delays in forwarding mails to points adjacent to main lines of railway and generally to inefficient and unsatisfactory mail service in the districts mentioned.

Therefore be it resolved, That this association desire to respectfully call the attention of the honorable, the postmaster-general, to the complaints referred to and to urge upon him to take such steps as will place the postal service in Eastern British Columbia on a basis and conform to the requirements of the mining country which is being rapidly developed, which consequently demands speedier and closer attention from the postoffice department than old established districts in the east.

Referring to the memorial recently presented by the Rossland Board of Trade in asking for proper representation for Kootenay, Mr. Daly moved, seconded by Mr. Ross: Resolved, that this association heartily endorse the memorial prepared by the Kootenay and Rossland Boards of Trade, asking the Dominion government to grant the same and that it be the duty of the Board of Trade of Eastern British Columbia to take such steps as will be necessary to remedy the inequalities found to exist in the east.

Hon. Mr. Daly, who was minister of the interior at the time of one of the redistribution went fully into the matter and explained the position of the then existing government on the question.

Columbia government the desirability of giving said district such representation without delay.

After a considerable discussion as to the best means of expediting the business before the Board, a number of the questions to be submitted for consideration were placed in the hands of the following committees composed of Messrs. Daly, Ross, Fletcher, Haig and Harvey, to prepare resolutions concerning the same and report to the convention later.

SILVER-LEAD QUESTION.

Mr. Buchanan's Views of the Situation—What He Advocates.

Mr. Buchanan said: In the early part of the winter of 1898, the subject of the necessity of doing something to relieve the difficulties under which the silver-lead industry of Kootenay was laboring came before the Kaslo Board of Trade, and I was appointed upon a committee formed to investigate and report upon the situation. The Dingley tariff had come into operation on the 1st of July, 1897. Prior to that, under the Wilson tariff, we had entry for our ores into the United States markets, upon payment of a duty of \$15 per ton or 34-cent per pound upon the lead contents of the ore, and we also had entry into that market for lead in bullion at the rate of one cent per pound. The Pilot Bay smelter had closed down before the Dingley tariff was adopted, and before there was any certainty that it would be adopted.

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H. E. A. COURTNEY

Barrister, Solicitor, Notary Public Wallace Building, Rossland.

Canadian Pacific Nav. Co.

(LIMITED.) VANCOUVER ROUTE. Time Table No. 32, taking effect Jan. 1st, 1898. Victoria to Vancouver—Daily, except Monday at 1 o'clock. Vancouver to Victoria—Daily, except Monday at 12:15 o'clock, or on arrival of C. P. R. No. 1 train.

NEW WESTMINSTER ROUTE.

Leave Victoria for New Westminster, Ladner's Landing and Lulu Island—Sunday at 9 o'clock; Wednesday and Friday at 9 o'clock. Sunday's steamer to New Westminster connects with C. P. R. train No. 2, going east Monday.

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Steamships of this Company will leave for Fort Simpson and intermediate ports via Vancouver, the 1st and 15th of each month at 8 o'clock. For and skidways on 1st of each month.

BARCLAY SOUND ROUTE.

Steamer Tees leaves Victoria for Alberni and Soona ports the 15th and 26th of each month.

KLONDIKE ROUTE.

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JOHN IRVING, Manager. G. V. A. CARLETON, General Agent.

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Table with columns: LEAVE DAILY, ARRIVE DAILY. Rows: Spokane, Northport, Roseland, Kelso, Seattle, Vancouver.

Tickets on sale all over the world. Close connections at Nelson with steamers for Kaslo and Kootenay lake points.

Atlantic S. S. Lines

FROM MONTEAL. All Canadian Lines. California, Aug. 17. All Atlantic Lines. American, Aug. 18. All American Lines. British, Aug. 19. All British Lines. Canadian, Aug. 20.

FROM NEW YORK. White Star Line. Germanic, Aug. 12. Cunard Line. Campania, Aug. 13. All American Lines. St. Paul, Aug. 14. Anchor Line. Anchor, Aug. 15. All British Lines. Peninsular, Aug. 16.

Passages arranged to and from all European ports. For rates, tickets and full information apply to C. P. R. depot agent, or

A. B. MACKENZIE, City Ticket Agt., Rossland, B. C. W. M. STITT, Gen. S. S. Agent, Winnipeg.

Kootenay Railway & Navigation Company

Operating Kootenay & St. Albans Railway-International Navigation & Trading Company.

Table with columns: Schedule of Time, Pacific Standard Time. Rows: Kootenay, St. Albans, International.

Passenger train for Sandon and way stations, leaves Kaslo at 8 a. m. daily, returning, leaves Sandon at 1:15 p. m.

International Navigation & Trading Company Operating on Kootenay Lake and River. S. S. INTERNATIONAL.

Leaves Kaslo for Nelson at 6 a. m. daily, except Sunday. Returning, leaves Nelson at 3:30 p. m., calling at Balfour, Pilot Bay, Ainsworth, and all way points.

Leaves Nelson for Bonner's Ferry, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays at 7:00 a. m., connecting with steamer International from Kaslo, at Pilot Bay. Returning, leaves Bonner's Ferry at 7:00 a. m., Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays, connecting with steamer International for Kaslo, Lardo and Argenta.

LARDO-DUNCAN DIVISION. Steamer International leaves Kaslo for Lardo and Argenta at 8:45 p. m., Wednesdays and Fridays.

Steamer Alberta leaves Kaslo for Lardo and Argenta at 8:00 p. m. Sundays.



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Trains depart from Spokane: No. 1, West bound at 7:35 a. m., daily. No. 2, West bound at 12:15 p. m., daily. No. 3, East bound at 7:35 a. m., daily. No. 4, East bound at 12:15 p. m., daily.

E. W. KUFF, Agt. R. M. Ry. Roseland, B. C. J. W. HILL, General Agent, Spokane, Wash.

A. D. CHARLTON, Asst. Gen. Pass. Agent.

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Table with columns: Leaves Daily, Spokane Time Schedule, Arrives Daily.

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STEAMER LINES. San Francisco-Portland Route. STEAMSHIP SAILS FROM PORTLAND: Portland, Seattle, Tacoma, San Francisco, San Pedro, Santa Ana, San Diego, San Francisco, San Pedro, Santa Ana, San Diego.

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and you will make direct connections at St. Paul for Chicago, Milwaukee and all points East. For further information call on any ticket agent, or correspond with

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that year the mines the Wilson tariff. A good one in many respects. It is a desiderandum in the mind of every man who told that this country, without return in all forms, will amount per annum. By portion of this will...

About three of the in the present time, and charges that can be other mines are engaged in development able that this state...

This is our case, you may be sure that in this contention be engaged in lead mining. Rossland is rapidly becoming a mining centre. The following motion...

Resolved, that this stand taken by the adian commissionersference in favor of the Resolved, that this fully requests that in event of the refusal termination of...

Resolved, that Mr. Aldridge follow motion. Resolved, that lead and refined in bond should be admitted, the Canadian duty...

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