

**KLONDIKE, YUKON & STEWART PIONEERS, LTD.**

The first general meeting was held in London on the 1st instant. Mr. Robert Smith, J. P., chairman of the company, presiding.

The chairman stated that the company went to allotment on August 18th last, 28,007 fully-paid shares and 5,283 pioneers' shares having been duly applied for. The total number of shareholders was 219. Since the allotment the board has been strengthened by the addition of two gentlemen largely interested in the concern—namely, Mr. E. Spiegel and Mr. T. James. After the formation of the company there was a good deal of formal business to be settled before they could make a fair start, and, meanwhile, there came to hand conflicting statements as to the conditions of the passes leading to the Klondike territory, and as to the freezing of the river and lakes. There were two passes leading into the country—the Chilcat, or White Pass, and the Chilcoot—and the difficulties attendant on getting over either of them when once the Winter snow fell were enormous. In these circumstances, the board at once cabled one Captain M'Clean to proceed to Lynn Canal and reconnoitre the situation, and cable to this side the true position, with recommendations. Captain M'Clean as quickly as possible reported that owing to the unusual severity of the winter, and abnormally early period at which snow and frost had set in, it would not be advisable to attempt to cross the passes this year. Having gone to Vancouver at the request of his colleagues, he (the Chairman) subsequently had an interview with Captain M'Clean in company with their General Manager, Colonel Domville, a member of the Canadian Parliament, and it was decided by them not to send an expedition until next year. They naturally regretted the delay. It had, however, manifest advantages, giving them time to arrange deliberately for proper equipment, which would no doubt result in a great saving of expense. The knowledge acquired during his visit to Vancouver, and negotiations then entered into, could not fail to be of benefit to this company. It was proposed to despatch two expeditions early in the year, one under the leadership of Captain M'Clean. Colonel Domville intended to head the other, which would go by another route, probably somewhat earlier, and into a region about which they had special information. It was not desirable now to give details concerning this second expedition, the board would be greatly disappointed if it did not yield remunerative results. Apart from the prospects afforded by the acquisition of mining claims in Klondike, the directors had given attention to the question of trade and transport and had almost closed negotiations for taking an interest in an important railway charter and a West Coast steamship company. It was far

from their intentions to go rashly. On the contrary, they would take every precaution that skill and experience could suggest, and avoid having anything to do with properties until a careful examination had been made by engineers of their own.

Finally the Chairman said: You will have gathered that we have opened up avenues for further business in Canada, and that the prospects for our Company's success are good. When there I had the pleasure of meeting more than one of the Cabinet ministers of the Dominion Parliament, and I have their assurance that they will do everything in their power to promote the Company's operations. This you may not look upon as of much consequence, but I can assure you it is of the greatest importance, for politics in Canada and politics in this country are very different, and those of you who have had the opportunity of studying this matter from personal observations will endorse my views readily. Colonel Domville, our Managing Director on the other side, is member for King's County, has been a prominent politician all his life, and, being a loyal and devoted supporter of the present Cabinet, we are more than favorably situated to avail ourselves of the influence his position commands. Working together with one object in view, we hope at our next annual meeting to present a satisfactory statement, not only of anticipations, but actual realisations of profits. (Applause). The proceedings closed with the usual vote of thanks.

**GOVERNMENT LAND SALES AT NELSON.**

The Provincial Government has now sold by auction all its available lots at Nelson—279 in number—for the substantial sum of \$24,440 the net proceeds for which will cheer the heart of the Provincial Minister of Finance, whilst the passage of the property into private ownership will doubtless in many cases lead to substantial building and property improvement in the steadily rising West Kootenay City of Nelson.

**A BAD INVESTMENT.**

It is stated that Sir Charles Tupper's company, the New Goldfields of British Columbia, Limited, has abandoned the Exchange mine, near Slocan City. Results proved unsatisfactory, and it is stated that the lead has pinched out.

**ANOTHER NELSON STAMP MILL.**

Another free milling gold group at Nelson, that known as the Referendum and situated on Forty Nine Creek, is to be provided with a small mill of 10 stamp capacity.