Still no Decision

Public No Wiser Since Nanaimo Miners Held Yesterday's Meeting.

Those Who Took Part Keep Silence and Mines Are Still Idle.

The Trouble Has Been Developing For Nearly a Year Back.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Nanaimo, Feb. 16.—What action the miners of the Western Fuel Company will take is yet unknown to the outside public. The union held a meeting today in the opera house, but when adjournment was reached at noon nothing could be learned of what had transpired. It is supposed that the executive now have the matter in hand, and the miners are still idle pending a decision.

HISTORY OF DISPUTE.

The crisis reached last week in the Nanaimo collieries has been developing for about a year. Last spring the management began to open up the lower seam at Protection mine, the men being employed at day work. The results were not satisfactory, and the proposition was made by Mr. Russell, the manager, that the work be undertaken by contract at the rate prevailing throughout the mines, 68 cents a ton net. The men asked 80 cents net, but this Mr. Russell declined to give. The question came up before the union, and after some negotiation with the management ended in the company ceasing operations in that part of the mine, declaring that it would not pay them to work it at the price asked, and the men saying that they could not make wages at the lower rate. This threw about a hundred men out of work, and the settlement being of an unsatisfactory nature to both parties has not tended to preserve harmony between the miners affected and their employers. Some of the men have obtained employment since either here or elsewhere, but the net result has been the existence here for a year of a large body of men who were out of work.

It was a comparatively small matter which brought the dissatisfaction with this condition to a head. When the new company took over the mines at the beginning of the present month the allowance of 25 cents per shift paid to men working with safety lamps was stopped. Only twenty men were affected, and the total amount involved was $5 a day, a sum too small to have of itself caused a dispute lasting more than a few minutes.

When, however, this matter was brought up in the union, the lower seam trouble was also taken up again and finally the mass meeting of Friday was arranged to consider both. Nor did the mass meeting when it convened confine itself to these. Other questions, from trifling grievances to the whole position as regarded the scale of wages were discussed, and apparently the men reached the conclusion that while they were adjusting their relations with the company they might as well do it thoroughly. The abolition of the duty on coal somewhat naturally pointed to the probability that the operators could now afford to pay more wages, and it was considered that an effort should be made to obtain some share of the benefit conferred by the act passed by the United States Congress. The men finally demanded that the 25 cent allowance to the safety lamp men be resumed, and that the lower seam men be paid a dollar a ton gross (a little over 80 cents net) and pending the termination of the negotiations respecting these matters the mines were to remain idle. They also resolved to notify the company that they would expect an increase of the scale of wages ranging from 10 to 20 per cent. according to the class of work for all men employed underground.

After the termination of the mass meeting on Friday rumors of all kinds were distributed as to the interview which followed between the management and the executive of the union. On one hand it was stated that so satisfactory had been the result that the men would return to work this morning, while on the other it was stated that no answer would be given to the executive until President Howard's arrival. Nothing really authentic could be obtained, and the mass meeting, therefore, resumed its deliberations this morning and now has adjourned with the general public very little the wiser as to the state of affairs than they were when the adjournment of Friday took place.

MERCURY DROPS OUT OF SITE

Winnipeg Catches Forty Below Zero—North Dakota Suffers Worse.

Winnipeg, Feb. 16.—(Special.)—The weather today and yesterday has been the coldest of the winter. The mercury has ranged from 30 to 40 below today.

Miss Annie Gillespie, a school teacher of Ochre river, lost her way on the main street this morning, and when found her face and hands were badly frozen.

IN THE STATES.

Chicago, Feb. 16.—Reports today show an extensive cold wave covering the United States West from Texas to Lake Superior, and extending into the Rocky Mountains. Willison, N. D., with a record of 42 below, is distinguished as the coldest spot in the country. In the mountains of Wyoming, the temperature ranges from 28 to 40 degrees below. Mining operations have ceased; cattle are perishing and many small camps are entirely cut off from the outer world.

West Superior, Wis., Feb. 16.—The mercury today recorded 23 degrees below zero, the coldest this winter.

Omaha, Neb., Feb. 16.—Ten degrees below zero was registered here this morning, the coldest of the winter. The cold wave covers the states of Iowa and South Dakota.

NEW PAPER.

Montreal, Feb. 16.—(Special.)—Hon. R. Prefontaine has purchased for the new French Liberal morning paper, Le Canada, a building on St. James street near St. Lambert Hill, occupied by Le Journal company. It is understood the new paper will appear on March 2.

ALBANIANS ROUSED.

Vienna, Feb. 14.—A despatch to the Neue Frei Presse from Belgrade says three thousand Albanians after meeting the protest against the introduction of reforms, marched upon and occupied the town of Ipek, Turkey-in-Europe, which is now completely isolated. It is said that the Albanians intend proceeding to Mitrovitse to expel the Russian consul there.

POPULAR WITH MEN.

W. H. Wall of Nanaimo Presented With Watch.

Nanaimo, B. C., Feb. 16.—(Special.)—The top hands employed by the Western Fuel Company met on Saturday evening and presented Mr. W. H. Wall, the retiring master mechanic, with a gold watch, and an illuminated address. Mr. Wall has held the position mentioned for many years without a fatal accident occurring to any of his subordinates with whom he has always had the most friendly relations. About 100 of the men were present, among the guests being Superintendent Russell, Assistant Superintendent Bryant, and Inspector of Mines Morgan.

MISSION WORK.

Rev. Dr. McLaren Has a Busy Time.

Toronto, Feb. 16.—(Special.)—In connection with the proposed union of the Presbyterian and Methodist home mission work, Rev. Dr. D. D. McLaren, Presbyterian secretary, is setting out immediately for the West. He will go to Vancouver to attend a meeting of the synodical committee of British Columbia. In the following week he will be at Winnipeg to take part in deliberations of the Synodical committee of Manitoba and the Northwest Territories. He will then return to Toronto and attend a general Home Mission committee.

Mr. Bowser On the Result

His Deductions From the Dominion By-Election In Burrard.

Latest Figures in Detail of the Vote Cast in the Constituency.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Vancouver, Feb. 14.—W. J. Bowser, in an address before a large audience at the Conservative Club tonight, commented on the recent election. He said the Conservatives showed wisdom in not putting a candidate in the field, for they had, all sections of the Liberals would have united against a common enemy. As it was, the Conservatives stood by and watched the family quarrel, and beheld a political Labor party organized by the late Mr. Maxwell, out with a standard-bearer fighting the government candidate. Now this Labor party had separated from the Liberals, they should join the Conservatives, as they need expect nothing from a Liberal government. The deductions he drew from the election were that the conservative business vote elected MacPherson; that the government was defeated by a popular vote, that is, combining the vote against the government cast for Foley and McInnes, MacPherson was defeated by 305 in the city, and 125 all around; that the machine worked splendidly in outlying districts; that this last Liberal campaign in this district showed much corruption as proven by impersonation; that the Conservative party remains intact in the district and the Liberal party is divided. In conclusion, he urged the party to organize for the fight in the next local election, which, he said, must be run on party lines.

According to the latest figures in detail, MacPherson's majority is now 229. The latest returns from the Northern Coast have arrived by boat and the figures in detail are as follows:

	Macpherson.	Foley.
Vancouver	1,702	1,671
Port Moody	20	15
Moodyville	34	12
Barnet	9	1
Squamish	14	2
South Vancouver	3	6
Westminster Junction	8	8
Van Anda	14	31
Lund	24	0
Howe Sound	8	10
Shoal Bay	11	9
Herrit Bay	17	1
Whaletown	2	2
Read Island	10	11
Atlin	36	135
Port Essington	52	1
Standard	6	0
Inverness	6	0
Port Simpson	17	0
Naas	4	0
Metlakatla	7	0
Rivers Inlet	3	0
Bella Coola	49	1
Alert Bay	13	3
Quathlasco Cove	11	2
	2,120	1,891

A WONDERFUL DISCOVERY.

Extract From "The Diamond Fields Advertiser," Kimberley.

This is the age of research and experiment, when all nature, so to speak, is ransacked by the scientific for the comfort and happiness of man. Science has indeed made giant strides during the past century, and among the—by no means least important—discoveries in medicine comes that of Therapion, particulars of which will be found in another column. This preparation is unquestionably one of the most genuine and reliable Patent Medicines ever introduced, and has, we understand, been used in the Continental Hospitals by Ricord, Rostan, Jobert, Velpeau, Maisonneuve, the well known Chassaignac, and indeed by all those who are regarded as authorities in such matters, including the celebrated Lallemand, and Roux, by whom it was some time since uniformly adopted, and that it is worthy the attention of those who require such a remedy we think there is no doubt. From the time of Aristotle downwards, a potent agent in the removal of these diseases has (like the famed philosopher's stone) been the object of search of some hopeful, generous minds; and far beyond the mere power—if such could ever have been discovered—of transmuting the baser metals into gold is surely the discovery of a remedy so potent as to replenish the failing energies of the confirmed rone in the one case, and in the other so effectually, speedily and safely to expel from the system without the aid, or even the knowledge, of a second party, the poisons of acquired or inherited disease in all their protean forms as to leave no taint or trace behind. Such is The New French Remedy Therapion, which may certainly rank with, if not take precedence of, many of the discoveries of our day, about which no little ostentation and noise have been made, and the extensive and ever increasing demand that has been created for this medicine wherever introduced appears to prove that it is destined to cast into oblivion all those questionable remedies that were formerly the sole reliance of medical men. Therapion may be obtained in England, direct from the proprietor, and of all the principal Chemists and Merchants throughout the Colonies, India, China, Japan, etc., the many agents for some, including the well known firms of Lennon, Ltd. (all branches in South Africa); Treacher & Co., Ltd., Bombay, Byculla and Poona; Smith, Stanistreet & Co., Calcutta; A. S. Watson & Co., Ltd., Hongkong, China and Manila; Elliot Bros., Ltd., Sydney and Brisbane; Rocke, Tomsitt & Co., and Felton, Grimswade & Co., Melbourne; Lyman, Sons & Co., and Evans & Sons, Ltd., Montreal and Toronto, and numerous others, not even excluding such remote districts as Central Africa, the Fiji Islands, St. Helena, etc., etc.

They make one feel as though life was worth living. Take one of Carter's Little Liver Pills after eating; it will relieve dyspepsia, aid digestion, give tone and vigor to the system.

Demand For Breathing Spaces

Deputation of Citizens Urges Aldermen To Provide More Parks.

Victoria West and Spring Ridge Require Some Recreation Grounds.

Prior to the regular meeting of the City Council last evening a deputation representing the various districts of the North Ward waited on the board of aldermen. The delegation, which was introduced by Mr. W. Marchant, was composed of Messrs. W. H. Price, C. E. King, W. Snider, J. G. Brown, W. Huggett and Noah Shakespeare. Mr. Marchant, in addressing the board, pointed out the fact that at present the North Ward was entirely dependent on Adl. Goodacre's good nature for the only open space which could be used by the young men of the North Ward to play their outdoor games. At considerable expense the Fernwood club had erected a hall which could be used by the younger men during the winter, but they had no place to take recreation or physical exercise in the summer. The only open spaces were being rapidly taken up, and he asked that the council go into this question and provide some open spaces for the various districts in the North Ward. Mr. Marchant referred to several spaces which he thought might be obtained, and to the fact that there was a large section of land in the James Bay district which was left in trust to be disposed of, the proceeds of which were to be used in purchasing a park or recreation ground in other parts of the city. He hoped the request of the deputations would be sincerely considered.

Mr. Noah Shakespeare said that open spaces were the chief things for the improvement of the morals and interests of the young men of the city. A large sum was spent on Beacon Hill park which was not available for those residing in the North Ward. The distance prohibited the residents of that locality from availing themselves of the park's beauties. He hoped that the council would take steps towards meeting the wishes of the deputations.

Mr. J. G. Brown spoke on the good work the Spring Ridge Young Men's Club had carried on, and asked the council to assist them in carrying out their wishes.

Mr. C. E. King referred to the fact that it was absolutely necessary that some space should be purchased or leased. If the work of providing healthy entertainment for the young men was to be successful recreation grounds must be provided.

Mr. W. H. Price suggested that the council should ascertain whether the property in James Bay could be realized on, and the proceeds spent in making provision for recreation grounds and breathing spaces. The Victoria West Athletic Club's work could not be properly carried out through lack of grounds; the Victoria West and Rock Bay districts were being rapidly built upon, and the only available spaces were disappearing quickly. The moral and physical condition of our young men demanded that something should be done for these districts, and he hoped the council would do something at once.

His Worship the Mayor thanked the deputation and said he and Ald. Grahame were moving in the matter, and assured those who were pressing the question that it would receive their attention.

AMENDMENTS TO FRUIT MARKS ACT

Incomplete Copies of the Act Distributed In this Province.

The Deputy Minister of Agriculture has received the following from the Department of Agriculture at Ottawa:

By an error a number of copies of the Fruit Marks' Act without the amendments of 1902 have been distributed by the Department of Agriculture. The chief amendments are in section 4, which now reads as follows:

"Every person who, by himself or through the agency of another person, packs fruit in a closed package, intended for sale, shall cause the package to be marked in a plain and indelible manner, before it is taken from the premises where it is packed; (a) with the initials of his Christian names, and his full surname and address; (b) with the name of the variety or varieties; and (c) with a designation of the grade of fruit, which shall include one of the following six marks: For fruit of the first quality, No. 1, or XXX; for fruit of the second quality, No. 2, or XX; and for fruit of the third quality, No. 3, or X; but the said mark may be accompanied by any other designation of grade, provided that designation is not inconsistent with, or marked more conspicuously than the one of the said six marks which is used on the said package. Other important sections are six and seven, which read: No person shall sell, or offer, expose, or have in his possession for sale any fruit packed in a closed package, upon which package is marked any designation which represents such fruit as of No. 1 or XXX, finest, best or extra good quality, unless such fruit consist of well-grown specimens of one variety, sound, of nearly uniform size, of good color for the variety, of normal shape, and not less than 90 per cent. free from scab, worm holes, bruises and other defects, and properly packed. Section 7 reads: No person shall sell or offer, expose, or have in his possession for sale, any fruit packed in any package in which the faced or shown surface gives a false representation of the contents of such package; and it shall be considered a false representation when more than 15 per cent. of such fruit is substantially smaller in size than, or inferior in grade to, or different in variety from, the faced or shown surface of such package.

W. H. COARD,
Dominion Department of Agriculture.

INTERIOR BOARD OF TRADE.

Meeting in Fernie to Be Teld Next Month.

Rossland, Feb. 16.—The Associated Boards of Trade for Eastern British Columbia will meet at Fernie on March 18. The Kaslo Board will introduce resolutions requesting the Provincial Government to take steps to prevent forest fires and to acquire a hundred thousand acres of East Kootenay pine lands for a public park, and that the Dominion Government be asked to establish an experimental apple orchard in the Rocky Mountain country; also that each Board of Trade in the province send two delegates to the convention to be held at Kamloops to form a Provincial Board of Trade.

The Rossland board will probably offer resolutions dealing with the coke and coal supply.

Dr. Albert Alonzo Ames, formerly Mayor of Minneapolis, was arrested yesterday at Hancock, N. H., by local officers at the request of Minneapolis officials. He is wanted in Minneapolis for offering bribes.

STEAMBOATMEN'S UNION.

One Instituted Here With a Large Membership.

C. H. Thompson of Vancouver, president of the Steamshipmen's Society of British Columbia, addressed an open meeting of steamboatmen in the Longshoremen's hall last evening. After dealing with the aims and objects of the society, he requested those not directly interested to retire. Some sixty odd local steamshipmen remained, and the instituting of a branch of the society was proceeded with. Officers were elected and installed, and committees struck to attend to the work incidental to a new organization. The new branch starts off well and promises to become a strong union. The question of the relationship of the new union with the Trades and Labor Council was discussed, but no definite action was taken.

It is the intention of the society to establish branches in all the Coast ports of the province and the Yukon Territory. Another meeting will be held in a fortnight.

ROSSLAND OUTPUT.

Report of the Mines For the Week Just Ended.

Rossland, B. C., Feb. 14.—Shipments from Rossland camp for the week ending tonight are as follows: Le Roi, 4,000; Centre Star, 1,960; War Eagle, 1,220; Giant, 25; Velvet, 150; Le Roi No. 2, 580. Total for week, 7,945; year to date, 45,191. The coal shortage has not yet directly affected the operations of the Rossland mines.

Big Sensation In Oregon

Bill Passes House to Give Monopoly of the State Timber Lands.

And Is Now Being Engineered Through the Senate By Promoters.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Portland, Ore., February 14.—Through a bill that has passed the house, and is now before the Senate of Oregon, it is proposed to give certain individuals control of timber lands and power to tax smaller owners for 50 years. The bill provides that anyone improving a river to the extent to make it navigable for logs shall have the power to levy a toll of 75 cents per thousand foot board measurement on all timber floated down the stream. Men now in control of timber along the inland waterways of Oregon are in a position to take full advantage of this act. No regulations are provided by the act, no official inspection, and no definition of "Improvement." So that the blasting of a small rock in the channel would be enough to make owners of timber lands above that point pay tribute to the timber lords.

According to official figures this act would mean a total profit to the combine of over $250,000,000. The tribute from two counties alone would be $77,250,000. These counties are controlled absolutely in water transportation by the Booth-Kelly Company.

Booth, who is a state senator, had another man, Senator Miles, introduce the bill giving the monopoly. Indignation in the entire state is most pronounced. James Blakely, speculator of Wisconsin, is here to take advantage of the bill if it becomes law. He has already prepared to "locate" many toll charging rights, and go East with a proposition to sell his interests for $5,000,000. There is absolutely no protection to the small timber owner who must pay a tax of 75 cents a thousand feet or keep his timber. The greatest sensation in the history of Oregon is caused by the attempt to force through this bill. The expose was made by a local newspaper tonight.

LANDSCAPE DEFACEMENT.

Preventive Legislation Urged By The American Park and Outdoor Art Association.

From New York Post.

The use of buildings, landscapes and fences, especially along the lines of railroads and in our larger cities, for advertising purposes, seems to be on the increase and to be degenerating into an abuse. The American Park and Outdoor Art Association has started a movement to check the tendency. Cities and towns are being urged to adopt ordinances imposing fines for advertising on electric light, telegraph, telephone or street-car poles, trees and tree boxes. Laws have been prepared for introduction into the State Legislatures to prevent the pasting, painting, branding, stamping, or placing of advertisments on any building, fence, bridge, gate or other object upon the grounds of any of the State institutions, or of those of a private citizen or corporation without the written consent of the owner or tenant. Such a bill has been introduced into the Pennsylvania Legislature by Leslie Yates, of Philadelphia, at the request of the association.

The general adoption of such ordinances and laws will tend to do away with the present disfigurement of the landscape, and to give greater encouragement to those individuals and corporations disposed to aid in the artistic development of our urban and rural life. The association has likewise taken up the question with the Federal government with a view to having Congress enact similar legislation. In pursuance of the same general plan the association recently addressed a letter to the presidents and officers of the railroads of the country, calling their attention to the steady development of landscape work in parks, cemeteries and private grounds, growing out of a more intelligent and cultivated taste in such matters, and suggesting that the railroad managers of the country consider the question of beautifying the grounds, buildings and bridges about the stations and terminals by careful planting.

MACEDONIAN COMMITTEE.

Sofia, Bulgaria, Feb. 14.—Dr. Danew, the premier, announced in the Sobranje (National assembly) today, the arrest of the chief officers of the Macedonian committee and added that the offices of the Central Macedonian committee had been seized, and all the papers there confiscated. He said the dissolution of the Macedonian committee in the provinces has been accomplished without opposition. Macedonians have been summoned to a mass meeting tomorrow to protest against the action of the Government and to ask for the release of the prisoners.

TRANS-CANADA RAILWAY.

Will Ask the Provincial Government For Aid.

Vancouver, Feb. 16.—(Special)—Mr. O. E. Talbot, M. P., of Quebec, one of the promoters of the Trans-Canada railway, is at the Hotel Vancouver. On Tuesday he will go to Victoria to interview the government regarding the granting of aid to the projected railway in the Northern part of the province, and is making arrangements to have Mr. A. E. Hill, of Westminster, survey the route of the railway in Northern British Columbia. Mr. Talbot said to a Colonist correspondent that the Pacific terminus of the road would surely be Port Simpson, and they would expect a money or land grant from the local legislature.

Capitalists to Be Approached

Island Railway Project to Be Laid Before an English Company.

Parksville Passes Resolution Favoring the Line Going From Wellington.

There is the best of reasons for believing that the Island railway project, with which the people of Victoria in common with the residents of the entire Island have been wrestling for weeks past, is likely to be an accomplished fact at a much earlier date than most people imagine. It will be remembered that the Colonist a short time ago made mention of the fact that Mr. H. P. Bell, C. E., was in touch with powerful capitalists in England who were thoroughly competent to undertake the handling of such an enterprise, and that he had no doubt that if the project possessed all the elements of feasibility it was said to contain, the said capitalists would display little hesitancy in taking hold of it.

It is now learned that Mr. Bell has taken hold of the matter in earnest and intends laying the scheme before his people in England. He is busy collecting all the necessary data to make the case a strong one, and has had several interviews with Mr. William Ralph, the surveyor, whose knowledge of the topography of Vancouver Island is unsurpassed by anyone. Mr. Ralph, who has penetrated to almost every portion of the Island is of the opinion that an easy route for the railway can be found in a heretofore unmentioned pass through the great range of mountains lying in the central interior. Should Mr. Ralph's contention prove to be correct this will have a very important bearing upon the success of the whole enterprise, as it will permit of the line following almost a straight route from North to South, and destroy at once the argument that the plan to build the line is not feasible because it would have to hug the East Coast too closely, thus coming into competition with water traffic.

The Nanaimo Herald publishes further particulars of the public meeting which was held at Parksville on Friday evening last, and of which a brief teegraphic report appeared in Saturday morning's Colonist.

Mr. R. J. Hickey, of French creek, was voted to the chair and invited the delegates present from the Nanaimo Board of Trade to address the meeting. Messrs. W. T. Heddle, G. L. Schetky, and J. H. Cocking thereupon gave short addresses, going thoroughly into the question and pointing out that the best route for the interests of the Island was along the East Coast. These addresses were supplemented by remarks from a number of settlers, including Mr. Wallis, Mr. Gatcjen, Mr. Hickey, Mr. Hilliar, Mr. Knight, Mr. Craig and Mr. Lee, all in favor of the project. At the close of the meeting the following resolution was carried unanimously, proposed by Mr. R. P. Wallis, J. P., of Nanoose, and seconded by Mr. H. Lee, of French creek:

"Whereas, the matter of the opening up and developing of Vancouver Island by means of a railway running to its North end is now being actively agitated;

"And, whereas, the district from Wellington to Comox on the Eastern side of this Island, comprising the settlements of Nanoose Bay, Englishman's river, Parksville, Errington, French creek and Qualicum, is well adapted for agriculture and only awaits transportation facilities to largely increase its productiveness and settlement;

"And whereas, the present settlers were largely induced in the selection of their lands by the expectation of the present railway being extended through this district, therefore be it;

"Resolved, at this meeting, composed of settlers from all of the above mentioned districts, that we most heartily endorse the movement having for its object the development of Vancouver Island by a railway to its North end, and are of the opinion that this object can best be accomplished by the extension of the Esquimalt & Nanaimo railway from its present terminus at Wellington Northward through this well settled and rich agricultural district."

The Nanaimo Free Press, referring editorially to the splendid meeting held at Parksville, says:

"The meeting held at Parksville last evening and fully reported on another page, furnishes gratifying evidence of the great awakening that is taking place all through the settled portions of the Island. Nanaimo has for long been a solitary voice crying out the necessity of opening up the North and West, but to-day every town and village from Victoria Northward to Cumberland is joining in the demand for a railway connecting all which each other and with the extreme end of the Island.

"That the settlers of Nanoose, Parksville and French Creek should protest against any proposition to construct a line on a route such that the rich lands they are cultivating will obtain no benefit, therefrom was to be expected, but it was owing to the valuable information collected by Nanaimo during the last few years, that it was possible to demonstrate not only that as a matter of right as regarded the population but as a matter of necessity as regarded its construction the road must be carried Northward from Wellington and not meander up and down barren mountain ranges.

"Cumberland, as will be seen from the resolution passed there, has also joined the movement, and all that now remains to make the demand to be presented by Vancouver Island to the Dominion government unanimous is the passage of a similar resolution at the meeting to be held on Thursday next here in Nanaimo."

GREAT NORTHERN.

Report That They Have Secured Entry to Vancouver.

Vancouver, Feb. 16.—(Special)—The World says that nearly all the property required for terminal purposes in Vancouver has been acquired by the Great Nothern, also the right-of-way between Vancouver and Westminster. It also states that the gang of men now working on the Great Northern extension to Ladner will be put on the line to Vancouver and Westminster, which will be rushed to completion. Half a million dollars has been added to the assessment along the water front on real estate. This is done by including in the assessment the water front property of several mills, wharves, etc., on the main harbor and False creek, heretofore owned by the Dominion government and not taxable; but much of it has been crown granted, enabling the city assessor to assess the property for taxing purposes.

MAN FOR GALWAY.

Devlin Anxious to Get Lynch's Seat.

Montreal, Feb. 16.—The Star's London cable says: "The name of Charles Devlin, Canadian government agent at Dublin, is favorably discussed as Nationalist candidate for Galway, where the seat is vacant owing to the imprisonment of Col. Lynch. Mr. Devlin holds that Ireland is entitled to a modified system of self-government based on Canadian lines. If chosen, he would make the seventh Canadian in the Imperial House.

ROSSLAND FUEL OUTLOOK.

Will Get Fuel For Compressor Plants at Lethbridge.

Rossland, B. C., Feb. 16.—The local outlook in regard to the fuel situation is somewhat brighter. The War Eagle and Centre Star mines have arranged to bring the five cars of coal they require weekly for their compressor plants from the Galt collieries at Lethbridge and the Great Northern has undertaken to secure coke from United States sources for the Northport smelter.

C. P. R. CHANGES.

Reports Regarding Head Officials Revived.

Winnipeg, Man., Feb. 16.—General-Superintendent Leonard, of the C. P. R. has left for Montreal on important business in connection with the Western division. Rumors of changes which were current some time ago purporting to affect some of the head officials of both the Western, Pacific and North Bay divisions have been revived in railway circles, but nothing definite can be learned. It is reported that J. K. McNeillie, C. P. R. car service agent here, has been notified that he will be transferred to Montreal, Mr. J. McGregor, who has been connected with the Western freight association is mentioned as his successor. John Caldwell, C. P. R. baggage master here for many years has resigned.

Resolve to Be Naturalized

Doukhobors Will Become Citizens and Take Out Homestead Patents.

Professor Prince to Start For Coast Next Week--Maskinonge Election.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Ottawa, Feb. 16.—The Department of the Interior was advised today of a meeting of Doukhobors with Peter Vergerin, leader and agent of the department at Swan River and Yorktown, at which it was decided, and a resolution to that effect was passed, to become British citizens and Canadians. The Doukhobors have also decided to take out their patents for homesteads.

FISHERY COMMISSION.

Prof. Prince, commissioner of fisheries, leaves next week for British Columbia. Consequent upon Mr. Maxwell's death, the vacancy will be filled by Mr. Riley, M. P. Mr. Aulay Morrison is the other commissioner.

WOOL CASE.

In the Exchequer court this morning, R. Forbes & Co., Hespeler, applied to have the trade mark of a Shetland wool used by R. Poole & Co., of Leicester, England., expunged from the list of Canadian trademarks. The motion was granted by consent.

HOT IN AUSTRALIA.

J. S. Larke, Canadian trade commissioner to Australia, reporting to the department, says a hot wave has passed over the continent and undone the good which had been accomplished by the recent rains, burning up vegetation in pastoral districts.

OTTAWA COAL COMBINE.

The alleged coal combine in Ottawa was discussed at the City Council meeting tonight. A special committee was appointed to report as to the advisability of the council instituting proceedings against the Ottawa Coal Company.

GEOLOGICAL SURVEY.

H. O'Sullivan, of the Geological Survey has commenced a survey of the Gaspe country with a view to completing the work already started by the department.

MASKINONGE ELECTION.

The writ for Maskinonge has been issued. The election will take place on March 10, the same day as North Ontario.

MRS. HARRY ABBOTT DEAD.

Well Known Vancouver Lady Has Passed Away.

Vancouver, Feb. 16.—(Special)—The death of Mrs. Harry Abbott took place at an early hour this morning. Mrs. Abbott had been a resident of Vancouver since 1886, and was a leading figure in the social life of Vancouver. She was born in St. Hyacinthe, Quebec, in October, 1838. Her father, Hon. Justice Sicotte, was well known in public life prior to confederation, and assisted in the creation of the Macdonald-Sicotte administration.

Mrs. Abbott's first husband was Cortland E. Freer, and the children by the marriage, Mrs. Fane Sewell, Capt. H. C. Freer, who died at Nelson in 1898, and C. E. Freer, manager of the Bank of Montreal, Collingwood. In February, 1868, she was married to Mr. Harry Abbott, and her children by this mariage were Mr. J. L. G. Abbott, Mrs. Plunkett and Mr. Hamilton Abbott.

DUNCAN CREEK PLACERS.

Rich Ground Discovered on a Tributary of the Stewart River.

J. H. Falconer, a well-known Victorian, who has been in the northern country for the past three or four years, is in the city, visiting his family. He reports important discoveries on Duncan creek, a tributary of the Stewart river, emptying into it 75 miles above the Stewart River Crossing, the new town on the B. Y. N. stage line. These newly discovered goldfields are distant from Dawson, via Gold Run and Dominion creeks, about 150 miles. From the head of Dominion creek the government will construct a road this coming season.

In the new fields, Mr. Falconer states, the gravel runs from 5 to 20 cents to the pan on bedrock, the pay gravel averaging from 16 to 20 feet in depth, and the paystreak in places being as much as 200 feet in width.

This body of auriferous gravel is covered with muck and conglomerate to a depth of from 40 to 50 feet. When the gravel is struck it is firm and all pay. Plenty of water can be had to supply the miners.

This body of pay gravel extends for more than 35 miles, so far as is now known. Syndicates are already buying up claims, one company alone of American and British capitalists, represented by Mr. Brockington, having secured over 50 claims on the Duncan. They are comparatively unprospected claims, being purchased by Mr. Brockington at prices ranging from $500 to $3,000 each. These claims bought by him have not been sunk to bedrock, but some of them are in pay gravel. One claim, No. 2 below discovery, is owned by two Frenchmen, who refused $15,000 for the property. It is the general belief, says Mr. Falconer, that the newly discovered mining district will more than equal in area, if not in richness, all of the great Klondike country adjacent to Dawson.

ECONOMY IN THE HOME.

True economy means obtaining the best value for one's money. Clark's delicious Pork and Beans give the most nourishment for the least money.

NEW APPOINTMENT.

Washington, Feb. 16. — President Roosevelt today sent the following nomination to the Senate: George B. Cortelyou, of New York, to be Secretary of Commerce and Labor.

Are Opposed To Ludgate

Big Deputation Vancouver Citizens Calls Upon the Government.

Think Deadman Island Should Be Granted to the City.

It Is the Only Available Site For Wharves and Warehouses.

A delegation composed of prominent business men of Vancouver waited on the provincial government yesterday to oppose the granting of a lease of Deadman's Island to Theodore Ludgate, as a site for a sawmill or other purposes. The delegation was received by Hon. D. M. Eberts, attorney-general; Hon. J. D. Prentice, minister of finance, and Hon. W. C. Wells, chief commissioner of lands and works; the Premier, Hon. E. G. Prior, being unavoidably absent through illness.

The delegation was introduced by James F. Garden, M.P.P., and included the following: J. A. Christie, F. Carter-Cotton, A. Williams, A. O. Hamlin, R. H. Alexander, George Bartley, C. M. Beecher, Dr. A. Bell-Irving, C. E. Hope, H. F. Rose, Ald. W. H. Food, R. P. Pettipiece, G. W. Rigley, C. Wentworth Sarel, A. C. Lucas, J. McDonald, John M. Duval, A. L. Gordon, D. Robertson, J. M. K. Letson, N. Thomson, Smith Curtis, M. P. P., John B. Ross, J. G. Davidson, A. Gothard, J. C. Hutchinson, E. H. Heaps, W. F. Dixson, J. G. Woods and W. F. Creighton.

After introducing his companions to the members of the cabinet, Mr. Garden explained the object of their visit to Victoria, dwelling upon the value of Deadman's Island and its importance as an asset to the city of Vancouver as well as to the province. It was, he said, the only available bit of waterfront suitable for wharves and warehouses outside of what was held by private individuals or corporations, and for that reason, if for no other, the government should hesitate to alienate it to the exclusive use of Mr. Ludgate or any other person or company. If the government had decided to lease the island as a mill site, he argued that it would be in the public interests to make it a matter of public competition so that the province might derive the greatest benefit from the rental. If the lease of the island was put up at auction or by tender, he contended that it would bring many times the rental now proposed to be paid by Mr. Ludgate. In any event, Mr. Garden argued, the government should make such conditions in the lease as would safeguard the interests of the city, among other things, that the Park road should not be used for business purposes; that the establishment should not be enlarged toward the park; that company stores would not be operated; that while labor only should be employed; that the company should be subject to the regulations imposed by the park commissioners designed to protect the park and the public; that the land and improvements should be subject to municipal taxation, and other details of a similar nature. In concluding his remarks, Mr. Garden pointed out the representative character of the delegation, which included men from all classes of business circles.

A. Williams was the next speaker. He declared it rank fallacy to say that a majority of the people of Vancouver were not opposed to the Ludgate lease, and in support of his contention he pointed out that in the municipal election of 1900 the anti-Ludgate candidates had been returned at the head of the poll. Since that time this sentiment had increased. All that the city of Vancouver wanted was that it should have a chance to acquire the property before it were given either by lease or any other means. They asked that they should have the opportunity of refusing it before anyone else should acquire it. The city claim priority in equity, and intended to contest the matter in the courts should the decision in the appeal be given in favor of the Dominion government. At a great cost the city was fighting the C. P. R., where a question of right to 198 feet of waterfront was involved. This question of conserving the waterfront was an important one to Vancouver. The Deadman's Island matter involved 12 acres.

George Bartley, editor of the Independent, representing the Labor element, said the workingmen were strongly opposed to the lease. They would regard as a calamity the granting of this property to an individual at the expense of the taxpayers of Vancouver.

Dr. Bell-Irving handled the question from the point of view of shipping facilities. He contended that the C. P. R. practically controlled the waterfront, and in consequence the public should be protected through Vancouver city being granted control of the island. The city should be given first choice if the land was to pass from the hands of the government.

Mr. Alexander, speaking for the lumbermen, said he had no selfish motive to advance. There was ample room in the upper harbor for mill sites, but he objected to the rights of the city ratepayers being interfered with, and the shipping facilities being interfered with.

Ald. Wood remarked that a majority of the City Council was opposed to the Ludgate lease.

Mr. Letson, speaking for the mechanics of Vancouver, did not object to Deadman's Island being granted as a mill site, but he did object to its being granted to a foreigner at a nominal rental.

J. M. Duval and Smith Curtis, M. P. P., also spoke, urging that the interests of Vancouver should be considered before those of any individual.

Hon. D. M. Eberts expressed the pleasure he and his colleagues felt in meeting the delegation. He regretted the absence of the Premier, which was unavoidable owing to illness; but the arguments of the delegates had been taken down in shorthand, and would be presented in full to the executive. He would, he assured those present, receive the most careful consideration. The wish and intention of the government was to preserve to the people the greatest possible benefit in granting franchises and he assured the delegation that the question would be very carefully considered before any steps were taken as to the final disposition of Deadman's Island. He felt convinced from the personnel of the deputation that it was one of great interest to the people of Vancouver, and nothing would be done until the government was fully seized of the merits of the case. (Applause.)

The deputation then retired, expressing satisfaction with the reception of its views by the members of the cabinet.

CARIBOO'S QUOTA.

To Send Thirty-Eight Delegates to Miners' Convention.

Ashcroft, Feb. 16.—The Cariboo delegates to the miners' convention will number as follows: Barkerville, 3; Stanley, 1; Quesnel, 2; Alexandria, 1; Soda Creek, 2; Hundred and Fifty Mile, 5; Horse Fly and Harpers, 2; Bullion, 4; Keithley and Snowshoe, 2; Quesnel Forks, 1; Quesnel Lake, 1; Lac La Hache, 2; Eighty-Three, 1; Clinton, 3; Lillooet, 4; Ashcroft, 4; total, 38.