

1. It is proposed to organize for the purpose of promoting the construction of a railway which shall afford a direct means of communication between the coast cities of British Columbia, the agricultural districts of the Fraser River Valley and the various Kootenay mining camps, which shall be called "The Peoples' Railway."

2. The object in view is the development of the richest agricultural and mineral sections of the Province.

3. The people of the eastern portion of the Dominion, alive to the importance of railway connection with the Kootenay country, are using every means to induce the Dominion Government to grant such assistance as will bring about the commencement and early completion of such a line. The proposal, however, to construct a railway entering the Province from the east of the Rocky Mountains and extending through the Crow's Nest Pass to the Kootenays gives no hope for the development of the coast sections of our Province; on the contrary the effect will be to divert the greater portion of the trade from British Columbia altogether to the cities of other Provinces, and unless the construction of a line to the coast is made co-incident with the construction of a Crow's Nest road it will be found very difficult to enlist the sympathy of the Dominion Government in the scheme in future or to recover our legitimate trade from channels into which it will have been diverted.

4. The construction of a Crow's Nest line alone and without a road to the seaboard means a loss to the coast portion of the province that can never be recovered.

5. The route of the proposed coast railway will be from a point on the Gulf of Georgia to New Westminster and from Vancouver to a junction at New Westminster and thence easterly through the fertile municipalities lying between the Fraser River and the international boundary line to a pass through the Hope Mountains, thence by way of the valleys of the Tulameen and Similkameen Rivers" (connecting with the chief mining camps en route) to a point near the Columbia River to be hereafter determined upon, connection to be made with Victoria by railway ferry and with Nanaimo by steamer from Vancouver.

6. From any point beyond sixty miles east of New Westminster to that city and to the cities of Victoria, Vancouver and Nanaimo passenger and freight rates shall be the same.

7. On account of the present high rates and great distances to be travelled it is impossible for the merchants of the coast to carry on an extensive trade with the Kootenay centres; the time occupied in travelling from Rossland to the coast is two days and in the transfer of freight a much longer time in proportion.

8. By the proposed railway the journey from the Columbia River to the seaboard would be easily made in twelve hours without change of cars and at a greatly reduced