

be present, was held, when Captain A. F. Yates, of Victoria, B.C., who came accredited from the Victoria Board of Trade, delivered an address on the advantages that would accrue if a steamship service was established between British Columbia ports and Central and South America. Captain Yates submitted statistics of the imports of the southern countries, and products and manufactures that could be supplied by Canada; also products, such as sugar, coffee, etc., exported by these countries, and which Canada requires to import. After hearing the interesting address by Captain Yates, who represented Messrs. F. C. Davidge & Co., shipping agents of Victoria (who successfully established the Oregon, Asiatic Steamship line, running between Puget Sound and Japan and China), the following resolution was adopted:

"Whereas, Captain Yates, representative of Messrs. F. C. Davidge & Co., has submitted to this Board for consideration a proposition to establish a regular line of steamships between British Columbia and Central American countries, and coupled with this a statement that the Dominion Government is to be asked to grant a subsidy to assist in the establishment of such a line:

Be it resolved, that this Board strongly recommends to the Hon., the Minister of Trade and Commerce in Canada, that a thorough investigation be made as to the merits of the proposition submitted for the establishment of a steamship line between ports of British Columbia and those of the countries of South and Central America."

A copy of this resolution was forwarded to the Minister, who promised to investigate the project. Captain Yates afterwards addressed various Boards of Trade in Ontario and Quebec, where his proposition was received with considerable