The Working Day for Miners

Board of Trade Requests Government to Suspend the New Law.

Council Business of Quarter Reviewed—Commercial Museum.

At a quarterly general meeting yesterday afternoon the Britsih Columbia Board of Trade unanimously adopted a resolution offered by Mr. Herbert Cuthbert, which urges upon the government the desirability of not putting in force the legislation of last session prohibiting the employment of a miner in underground workings for more than eight hours in any day. This, with the election of Messrs. A. B. Fraser, B. Gordon, A. Brenchley, A. S. Robertson, F. W. Vincent and R. W. Taskin to membership in the board constituted the only business of the meeting which was attended by a meagre quorum only.

The securing of the requisite fifteen members, indeed, exhausted the resources of the active secretary and the convenient telephone, and it was not until a quarter to four when the meeting—convened for three o'clock—was duly opened with the bare quorum of members present. Introducing the business of the day, the president briefly reviewed the work of the council during the past quarter, treating of each subject in its order as follows:

"Purchase of Gold.—The special committee appointed at the previous quarterly general meeting waited upon the provincial government to ascertain what arrangements can be made for the purchase of gold dust. The provincial government was unwilling to guarantee their assays and the purchase of gold dust by the government will not be considered. A deputation from Vancouver had waited upon the government upon a similar mission and it appeared not unlikely that permission to use the government assay stamp would be granted an assayer at Vancouver to be appointed by the bankers and merchants of that city. The deputation from this board was assured that any privileges granted Vancouver in this connection would also be extended to Victoria.

"Port Angeles Ferry.—The council received a deputation from Port Angeles representing the Port Angeles Eastern Railway Company and subsequently Mr. John Lehman submitted a proposition suggesting an independent company to establish and maintain a ferry between Port Angeles and this city, and the citizens to pay a bonus to the railway company for the privilege of getting the cars landed here. Mr. Lehman was requested to submit a proposition whereby the railway company will undertake to equip and maintain the ferry. He had not been heard from since. Subsequently, the board received from Mr. Atkinson a request to confer with your council and a meeting was arranged for accordingly, at the time named by Mr. Atkinson. At the time appointed about a dozen members of your council and other business men met, but Mr. Atkinson did not keep his appointment, nor has any explanation or communication been received from him since that time.

"Ferry With the Mainland.—The railway committee of this board has suggested that a ferry connecting the Island with the Mainland somewhere near the United States boundary would be more advantageous to Victoria than a ferry to Port Angeles. This matter will be taken up in due course.

"Pilotage.—The pilotage charge upon vessels entering Victoria have been under consideration but this matter is not yet disposed of.

"Coasting Laws.—It has been considered inopportune to suggest any change in the suspending of the coasting laws whereby United States steamers can now call here for freight and passengers for the northern country.

"Alien Law—Your council endorsed the resolution of the Nelson board of trade by placing on record their opposition to legislation which will exclude aliens from owning quartz mines.

"Paris Exhibition.—The council urged the local government to include in the estimates a sum sufficient to display the various industries of British Columbia at the Paris exhibition in such a manner as will do the province justice.

"Placer Mining Act.—The council communicated to the Hon. Minister of Mines a request that provision may be made in the Placer Mining act to enable companies already licensed in this province to hold free miners' certificates without incorporation under the Companies act.

"Members of Parliament.—The council met the city representatives in the House of Commons and the Hon. Senator Templeman before their departure for Ottawa and amongst other things impressed the necessity for continuing dredging in Victoria harbor; the establishment of a mint; the suspension of the new fishery regulations, etc.

"Technical Education.—The suggestion of the Ottawa board of trade that technical education be provided throughout Canada by the Dominion government has been endorsed, and in the event of a convention being held in the East prior to presenting the matter to the government the members of this board who are now at Ottawa have been asked to represent us."

COMMERCIAL MUSEUM.

Only two communications were presented for the board's consideration, both of these being from Director Wilson, of the Philadelphia Commercial Museum, as fololws:

The President, Board of Trade, Victoria, British Columbia:

Sir,—This institution hereby extends to your board an invitation to accept permanent membership on its international advisory board. The membership of the board now includes all the leading commercial organizations in the United States, and many in Mexico, Central and South America, South Africa, India, Australia, China and Japan. These organizations confer with us in an advisory capacity, and instruct us as far as practicable in the direction of a general development of international commerce and the removal of any trade disabilities between their countries and the United States.

This institution is a public one, maintained by the nation, state and city. It does not enter into actual trade, but builds up and strengthens business connections, reports opportunities, directs merchants to the best manufacturers, and consumers to the best producers. It exhibits the raw products of other countries, analyzes them, and refers them to the manufacturers. Trade conditions everywhere are fully reported, and reputable houses and business men are recorded, their reference filed and their names referred to the best manufacturers.

As the work of the museum is world-wide in its influence, it is imperative that we consult the best business interests everywhere. This necessity had led to the formation of our international advisory board. Membership on this board will bring your board no obligations, but will enable you to identify yourself with a movement designed for the general good of business. By acting in this advisory capacity you will come into contact with the best commercial organizations over the whole world. You will have a connection in the United States through which all your wished and recommendations may be made known to the American people, and through which your members may be able to establish desirable business relations.

We trust that this invitation may be brought before your board and acted upon at an early date. On receipt of your acceptance a diploma of membership will be forwarded to your board, and also to two or your members, to be selected by you as personal representatives. In the absence of other instructions we generally name the president and secretary, but shall follow any suggestions which you may think proper.

Urging your early and favorable action, we remain, very respectfully yours,

W. P. WILSON, Director.

The President, Board of Trade, Victoria, British Columbia:

Sir,—This institution has the honor to inform your board, as a prospective member of its international advisory board, that it will hold in Philadelphia, in October, 1899, an international commercial congress, together with a commercial exposition. You are urgently requested to make such arrangements as will admit of the attendance of a good delegation from your board.

The congress will be of world-wide importance. It will comprise delegates from nearly every country in the world, and also special government delegates appointed by all nations on invitation of the United States government. The congress will be in daily session, and each country represented will be expected to choose the subjects for discussion and to treat of them in papers prepared beforehand. There will be given every opportunity for a free and fair discussion of all matters of interest between the United States and other nations. The meeting being unchecked by and governmental control, is certain to arouse world-wide interest, and its recommendations are bound to have their effect in shaping such legislation of this country. The importance of the congress is such that the opening session will be presided over by the President of the United States, and the whole diplomatic corps stationed at Washington will be in attendance.

All the leading chambers of commerce and boards of trade in the United States will be represented, and the leading manufacturers and merchants, not only here, but in all countries, will be invited to attend the congress as spectators. The delegates accredited from foreign governments and commercial bodies will have an official character, and will be entitled to a vote in all the proceedings. Delegates bearing such credentials will be the guests of the city during their attendance at the congress.

The congress will be convened on October 10, 1899.

Coincidently with the congress there will be held the National Exposition of American Manufacturers, an enterprise which has the sanction, endorsement and support of the government of the United States, the state of Pennsylvania and the municipality of Philadelphia. Altogether there has been appropriated and subscribed nearly one million dollars to defray the cost of the buildings and other expenses. The exposition is especially designed to exhibit such American manufactures as are most representative and best adapted to foreign requirements. In its entirety it will afford a most excellent opportunity for a thorough and comparative study of the various industries and of the requirements of the open markets of the world. Foreign merchants attending will be able to meet the leading manufacturers and business men of the United States, and thereby enter into more desirable business connections during their visit than would be possible on an extended trip under ordinary circumstances.

The exposition will be opened on September 14, 1899, and will remain open about three months. It will be directed by business men of the highest character, experts in their various lines.

Arrangements will be made with the transportation companies to secure reduced fares for visiting delegates and merchants.

Your board is hereby invited to appoint delegates to represent it officially at the international commercial congress. We leave the choice entirely to yourselves, believing that the importance of the meeting will lead you to select able men. The number of delegates is also left to you, though we might suggest two or three as a good representation. As the time is short we earnestly request prompt action on this invitation, appointment of delegates and selection of subjects for discussion. Please advise us of such action in order that invitation cards may be issued to your appointees and the official programme may be arranged.

An invitation is also hereby extended to all members of your board outside of the delegates appointed to attend the congress and exposition. It is an unusual opportunity to make a satisfactory business trip at reduced expense, and we have no doubt that a number of your members will be glad to avail themselves of it.

Again urging the desirability of early action and reply and with the assurance of high esteem, we remain, very respectfully yours,

W. P. WILSON, Director.

These were referred to the council of the board, with power to act: and on the motion of Mr. E. Pearson, seconded by Mr. James Mitchell, the thanks of the board were ordered to be conveyed to Mr. Robert Ward for his long and efficient service in behalf of the board and provincial interests, and also for his compliance with the request extended to past presidents of the board for their portraits to adorn the walls of the chamber.

THE EIGHT-HOUR DAY.

On the announcement being made that the list of business had been exhausted, Mr. Herbert Cuthbert asked permission to lay before the board a resolution arising out of the legislation of the last session of the provincial parliament, which resolution read as follows:

"In view of the grave objection on the part of many mine owners in West Kootenay to the legislation passed at the last session of the legislature prohibiting any miner working more than eight hours per day underground; and in view of the fact that the said mine owners have affirmed that it will be necessary for them to seriously consider the advisability of closing down their mines if the provisions of the act be put in force; and whereas such action would in the present prosperous condition of the province be a serious blow at the commercial interests of the province as a whole; it is hereby resolved that the provincial government be respectfully asked to take such steps as shall make the act inoperative until the next session of the legislature, so that both the miners and the mine owners shall have ample time to consider the effects of such legislation upon the mining industry and upon the general business of the province."

President Kirk pointed out that this subject had been brought before the council too late for it to be included in the notices of the quarterly meeting, and also that but one side appeared to be represented, which might make a discussion without notice unfair. Under the rules such a resolution, without notice, could only be dealt with on consent of two-thirds of the members present being obtained.

Bowing to this ruling, Mr. Cuthbert hoped that two-thirds of the meeting would be pleased to discuss the resolution and carry it; while Mr. L. G. McQuade took an opposite stand and argued that such a resolution should not be debated without due notice having been given.

"Let it go to the council," he said, "and they will bring it before the board regularly at its next quarterly meeting."

This, Mr. Cuthbert pointed out, would defeat the object sought, for the board would not hold another general meeting until the anticipated damage had been done. The plea of expediency commended itself to Capt. C. E. Clarke and Mr. J. S. Harvey, who moved that the rules be suspended so that the consideration of the resolution might proceed forthwith.

The president was about to put this resolution when Mr. Hanna raised the point of order that two members had slipped away, leaving the meeting without a quorum. This necessitated a brief suspension of business, during which the secretary resolved himself into a committee of one, returning in triumph a few moments later with sufficient reinforcements to fill up the break in the forces.

Mr. Cuthbert then proceeded to elaborate his reasons for offering the resolution—the board having unanimously consented to consider it. For two or three weeks certain British Columbia mining securities had depreciated in value to a considerable extent, and, endeavoring to ascertain the reason of this decline, he had become satisfied that it was to be ascribed to this objectionable legislation of last session. The managers of several of the most important mines in the Slocan district first of all had come down to interview the government in the matter: and after them, with the same object in view, there had come a second deputation, including the mayor of Nelson, the manager of the Hall Mines (the most important property in that section) and several others. These gentlemen had represented the extreme gravity of the legislation complained of, to them and to the entire mining industry of the Kootenays, asserting that if the eight-hour law became operative it would be practically certain to produce a stagnation of the mining business of the country.

The manager of the Hall Mines, for example, had stated that either the operation of this legislation would have to be deferred, or his company would be obliged to close down their mines. The same applied to all, or nearly all, the other large mines of Kootenay, the Le Roi included. As it was, a large amount of capital had already been kept out of the country by the fear of this legislation being put in force.

Tracing the history of the objectionable section, Mr. Cuthbert contended that it was not of government origin, but had been put through by a private member, Mr. J. M. Martin, of Rossland, without due consideration. In effect it was that no miner should be employed in underground metalliferous mine workings for more than eight hours daily; this law became operative on the 1st of May, but prosecution of employers could only be initiated with the consent of the Attorney-General or by the inspector of mines. To show what the new law really meant, he briefly outlined the situation: Heretofore the mines had worked two shifts of ten hours each, two hours being allowed after the coming up of each shift for the smoke and foul odors to clear away. Thus the mines could be operated continuously, 24 hours of the day, with the two working shifts. This new legislation, however, would reduce the working time by at least four hours, while necessitating the employment of three shifts—no good miner being obtainable at less than $3.50 per day.

Passing this resolution would not antagonize the government in any way, being merely in the direction of strengthening their hands in the disallowance of the legislation—or rather of inducing the Attorney-General not to consent to the initiation of prosecutions. At present no miners, no matter how willing they might be to do so, could be allowed to work in a ten hours' shift. The delay that he urged by this resolution would permit of thorough investigation and work injury to no one. It was quite in harmony with the undertaking the government had already given that the new law would not be made operative for some time at least. If the hands of the government were strengthened by the business men of the province, the act would undoubtedly stand over until next session at all events.

The resolution found a seconder in Capt. C. E. Clarke, and was supported by Mr. E. Pearson, who thought that if this eight-hour law were applicable throughout the province it would be fruitful in most disastrous results. In Cariboo the working season was very short and had to be made the most of, in order that the mines might be operated at a profit. Another point—it appeared that this obnoxious legislation was neither asked for nor desired by miner or mine owner.

Mr. J. S. Harvey observed that from his personal knowledge he could say the new law would injuriously affect many drifting mines in Cariboo; while as to the feeling of the Kootenays, it might be gathered from the fact that the Nelson board of trade had already adopted a resolution similar in tenor to that which Mr. Cuthbert had now brought forward.

In reply to a question by Mr. Hanna, the president explained that the legislation complained of had been secured by Mr. J. M. Martin at the request of the Rossland miners' union, at that time largely composed of striking miners from the Coeur d'Alene.

Mr. M. Lenz and Mr. L. G. McQuade thought so important a question might well stand over for consideration at a special and more representative meeting. Besides, it would be well to hear the evidence and argument on the other side.

Capt. Clarke promptly asserted that there was no "other side" to the question. Neither the miners nor the owners were in favor of the new legislation, while the cost of operating the mines was increased by it fully one-third.

President Kirk informed the board that nearly all of the working miners of the Slocan had already signed an agreement to close down if the new law were enforced.

Mr. Davidge saw no necessity for present discussion of the merits or demerits of the original proposition. The board was only asked that reasonable time be allowed by the government for consideration of the effects involved by the putting of the law into force. Such being the case, he saw no room for opposition, and moved "that the question be now put."

The question being put, the resolution carried unanimously and the meeting forthwith came to an end through the breaking of the quorum.

Amateurs in "Robin Hood."

Victorians Give First Local Production of DeKoven's Master Work.

Finished and Commendable Presentation of a Famous Musical Play.

Victorians enjoyed the pleasure last evening of listening to the first opera by "the American Gilbert and Sullivan," Mr. Reginald de Koven and Mr. Harry Smith, that has yet been sung in this city or province. The importance of the occasion was still further enhanced by the fact that the opera was "Robin Hood," de Koven's master work, and the presenting company a local organization of amateurs down even to the last piece in the large and efficient orchestra. Mr. F. Victor Austin was the conductor; Mr. F. Finch-Smiles directed the machinery of the stage with the assistance of Mr. George E. Powell; Mrs. Herbert Kent arranged and supervised the dances and chorus steps—while the cast and company for this production of "Robin Hood" by Canadian amateurs was as hereunder:

Robert of Huntington (afterwards Robin Hood).....Mr. James Pilling
The Sheriff of Nottingham..Mr. H. Moxon
Sir Guy Gisborne (his ward).....
.....Mr. G. A. Wood
Outlaws—
Little John.....Mr. Herbert Kent
Will Scarlett.....Mr. E. Grizzelle
Friar Tuck.....Mr. W. Allan
Allan-a-Dale .....Miss Clark
Lady Marian Fitzwalter (a ward of the Crown, afterwards Maid Marian)... ..... Miss Russell
Dame Durden (a widow).Mrs. Herbert Kent
Annabel (her daughter).....Miss Lugrin

Chorus of villagers, milkmaids, outlaws, King's Foresters, archers, pedlars, etc.; Mesdames Wallace and Welch; the Misses E. Sehl, E. McMicking, Colquhoun, F. Haywood, Kettle, Kettle, Houghton, D. Houghton, D. Sehl, C. Austin, Stewart, D. Colquhoun and M. Gowen; Messrs. Hibben, Wilders, Lang, Robertson, Woodward, Mills, Little, Richardson, Philip Johnston, Percy Johnston, W. T. Williams, Wilten, Olivier, Heygate, Janion, Welch, Wilkinson, Bayntun, York and B. W. Powell.

Orchestra—First violins, Mr. T. R. Smith, Miss A. Brown, Mr. B. Bantly, Mr. E. A. Powell; second violins, Major Trotter, Miss Cobb, Mrs. Foot, Mr. R. B. Powell; violas, Mr. Jessie Longfield, Mr. Rochon; violincellos, Mr. Longfield, Mr. E. Rochon; contra basso, Mr. C. G. Hitt; Flute, Mr. Fred Morse; clarionets, Mr. Rausch, Mr. E. Muriset; cornets, Miss Rochon, Mr. W. Duck; trombone, Mr. W. Douglas; drums, Mr. Wilkerson; and accompanists, Mrs. H. Walshe Windle and Miss C. Christie.

The story of the opera is the old familiar history of the merry monarch of outlawry whose career furnishes the material for half the legendary romances and fascinating folk tales of ancient England—the old, old story with all its dramatic possibilities, its picturesque costuming and setting, and its cameo-sharp individualities, but presented with a thoroughly modern comic opera flavoring in a libretto brimful of light and fanciful humor. In the music, the soul of the completed opera as the plot is the skeleton and the libretto the flesh and blood—the work approaches very near to the domain of grand opera. It is scholarly almost to heaviness yet replete with lyric gems. It is dignified past the possibility of complete reconciliation with the pun-besprinkled libretto. It is a triumph of choral work, and contains besides more than a few magnificent solos, duets, trios, quartettes, a quintette and a sextette. One notable divergence from the traditional modern comic opera is in the powerful double choruses, something not found in Gilbert and Sullivan's collaborate productions, and in the excellent development of each act's finale. Viewed as a whole the music of the opera is in every way pretentious, requiring for adequate presentation such facilities are were at Mr. Austin's command last night in a most musicianly orchestra of twenty-four pieces and an aggregation of quite forty voices on the stage.

To refer more particularly to the present production, the choruses and orchestration were primary features to command unstinted tributes of appreciation, the former full, powerful, precise and artistic; the latter never assertive but always sufficient for its important duties. The specially pleasing numbers commenced with the first rise of the curtain, in the Morris dance. Then came the graceful and humorous churning trio, and the Robin Hood waltz with which the initial act is terminated. Another splendid chorus was the "Came As a Cavalier," while the male sextette and the mixed quartette meritted their full share of appreciative attention. Of the solo gems, Mr. Pilling's (Robin Hood's) serenade in the second act; the Forest Song by Maid Marion (Miss Russell)—both of these numbers calling for voices of unusual range, power and dramatic force—and Mr. Kent's "Brown October Ale," assuredly demand particular recognition.

Mr. Pilling in the title role certainly looked the part to perfection and in his singing at times displayed uncommon sweetness of voice, with a ringing speaking voice that carried well. The Maid Marion of Miss Russell was both sung and acted admirably, this young lady's soprano being of marked purity and splendid range, her highest notes (the score is not an easy one) being as full and sweet as the most petted prima donna's, and her conception and interpretation of the active part being correspondingly satisfactory. Mr. Moxon entered with zest into the trying role of the Sheriff, using his deep bass to advantage; and Mr. Herbert Kent was Little John to the life—vigorous and effective in action and singing well. Miss Clark displayed a very charming voice and considerable dramatic skill in her Allan-a-dale; and Miss Lugrin gave a graceful, well-studied and well-denied coquette in her Annabel. Nor must Mr. E. Grizelle (Will Scarlett) be forgotten, with his splendid song of the armorer; Mrs. Kent in her excellent creation of Dame Durden, which by the way was as creditable a bit of eccentric comedy as a non-professional has offered theatre goers in many a long day; Mr. W. Allan in his companion comedy work as Friar Tuck; or Mr. G. A. Woods as the awkward rustic Sir Guy of Gisborne.

Over all Mr. Austin proved himself a cool and masterly conductor, with his forces perfectly in hand and capable of imparting confidence in both singers and instrumentalists. The opera will be repeated this evening—again for the benefit of the Benevolent Society.

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The part attacked becomes a surface of raw, flaming flesh, most pitiable to behold, and the itching and burning nearly drives the sufferer crazy.

Dr. Chase's Ointment has been so universally successful in the cure of Salt Rheum, Eczema, and all itching skin diseases, that it has a record of cures unparalleled in the history of medicine, and is looked upon as the only absolute cure for these diseases.

It is recommended by the best physicians, both in Canada and the United States, as a remedy of very superior excellence.

Dr. Chase's Syrup of Linseed and Turpentine has the largest sale of any preparation for the cure of bronchitis, asthma, coughs, colds and la grippe; 25 cents a large bottle.

Chafed Skins, Piles, Scalds, Cuts, Chilblanes, Chapped Hands, Sore Eyes, Sunburn, Earache, Neuralgic and Rheumatic Pains, Throat Colds and Skin Ailments are Quickly relieved by the use of ....

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Large Pots, 1x1¼ each (English Rate.) Editor "Household Words" says: "We are constantly appealed to for remedies which can safely be used in domestic practice for such ills as skin eruptions, burns, scalds, inflamed eyes, rheumatic and neuralgic pains, as well as colds in the chest. In all such cases, and, indeed, in a host of others, we have found Calvert's Carbolic Ointment invaluable."

F. C. CALVERT & CO., MANCHESTER

Awarded 85 Gold and Silver Medals, &c.

AGENTS:

Henderson Bros., druggists, Victoria, B.C.

THE DIRIGO LIBELLED.

Canadian Pacific Navigation Company Claim $15,000 for Saving Her.

The steamer Dirigo, which recently narrowly escaped being wrecked on Midway island, in Alaskan waters, was on Wednesday libelled at Seattle for $15,000 salvage by the Canadian Pacific Navigation Company, owners of the steamer Tees, which rescued the Dirigo from her perilous position on the rocks. The salvage suit was filed in the United States court Wednesday evening and the Dirigo was seized by the marshal on Thursday.

The libellant alleges that the Dirigo's position was one of extreme peril, and that but for the timely assistance rendered by the Tees she would have been a total loss. According to the libel, the Dirigo struck at ebb tide, and leaking badly settled down upon the rocks in such a position that her crank shaft was strained, her engines disabled and to move the vessel by her own power rendered out of the question.

The wreck, it is alleged, occurred in a blinding snow storm and gale, which were still raging the next day, March 11, when the Tees on her voyage down sighted the Dirigo in distress and came to her assistance. In pulling the Dirigo off the rocks under these conditions and towing her to Juneau, the Tees, it is alleged, was exposed to great danger.

The value of the Dirigo is alleged to be $90,000, and she had 51 passengers.

THE TRUST MOVEMENT.

Simply a Revival of the Very Old Swindling Game—A Page of History.

From the Portland Oregonian.

The authorized capital of the "combines" or trusts formed in the United States last year was $916,000,000; but this sum, great as it is, has been exceeded by the record of the first two months of the present year, the authorized capital for trusts organized during January and February aggregating $1,106,000,000; and the work of organizing still goes on at a prodigious pace, the list of new "combines" including pretty much the whole range of manufacture. Of course, it must not be understood that the colossal sums named above have been put up in hard cash. Perhaps the larger share is made up of fictitious capital—or mere "water." Many of the trusts are rags and tags of business projects which have never paid a dividend, pooled through the efforts of some professional promoter in the home of making profit through the sale of shares. And, as a matter of fact, a good deal of good hard money is going into these stocks, and most of it is destined to be lost. The extraordinary movement calls to mind a passage from Macaulay, descriptive of similar crazes in times long past in London. Macaulay says:

A crowd of projectors, ingenious and absurd, honest and knavish, employed themselves in devising new schemes for the employment of redundant capital. It was about the year 1688 that the word stockjobber was first heard in London. In the short space of four years a crowd of companies, every one of which confidently held out to subscribers the hope of immense gains, sprang into existence: The Insurance Company, the Paper Company, the Lutestring Company, the Pearl Fishery Company, the Glass Bottle Company, the Alum Company, the Blythe Coal Company, the Sword Blade Company. There was a Copper Company, which proposed to explore the mines of England, and held out a hope that they would prove not less valuable than those of Potosi. There was a Greenland Fishing Company, which could not fail to drive the Dutch whalers and herring-busses out of the Northern ocean. There was a Tanning Company, which promised to furnish leather superior to the best that was brought from Turkey or Russia. . . . Our country witnessed for the first time those phenomena with which a long experience has made us familiar. A mania of which the symptoms were essentially the same with those of the mania of 1720, of the mania of 1825, of the mania of 1845, seized the public mind. An impatience to be rich, a contempt for those slow but sure gains which are the proper reward of industry, patience and thrift, spread through society. The spirit of the cogging dicers of Whitefriars took possession of the grave senators of the city, wardens of trades, deputies, aldermen. It was much easier and much more lucrative to put forth a lying prospectus announcing a new stock, to persuade ignorant people that the dividends could not fall short of 20 per cent., and to part with £5,000 of this imaginary wealth for 10,000 solid guineas, than to load a ship with a well chosen cargo for Virginia or the Levant. Every day some new bubble was puffed into existence, rose brilliant, shone bright, burst, and was forgotten.

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Largest Dry Goods House in the Dominion of Canada, now ready with Spring Samples of New Dress Goods, Silks, Wash Fabrics and other Dry Goods needs. A Complete range will be sent to any address. Write for Catalogue. Address Mail Order Dept.

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NOTICE.

Public notice is hereby given that one month after the date of the first publication hereof I intend to apply to the Honorable the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works to purchase the following described lands, viz.:

Commencing at a post on the west side of the Alberni Canal, 800 feet south to Number One Post of the Pacific Mineral Claim (McIntyre Mountain, Nahmint, and marked "Granville H. Hayes," S. E. corner); thence west 150 feet to east line of Pacific; thence north following east boundary of Pacific, 1,500 feet; thence east 400 feet to shore of canal; thence following shore of canal to point of commencement, and containing eight (8) acres, more or less. Dated at Alberni, B. C., this 1st day of April, 1899.

G. H. HAYES.

MINERAL ACT.

(Form F.)

Certificates of Improvements.

"The Three Jays," "The Three Jays No. 2," "The Three Jays, No. 3," and "Blue Jay" mineral claims.

Situated in the Alberni Mining Division of Alberni District. Where located: On McIntyre Mountain, west side of the Alberni Canal, about one mile below Nahmint.

Take notice that I, G. H. Hayes, acting as agent for the Nahmint Mining Company, Free Miner's Certificate No. 50,682A, intend sixty days from the date hereof to apply to the Mining Recorder for certificates of improvements for the purpose of obtaining Crown Grants of the above claims; and further take notice that action, under section 37, must be commenced before the issuance of such certificates of improvements.

Dated this 28th day of March, 1899, at Alberni, B. C.

G. H. HAYES.

B. C. STEAM DYE WORKS.

141 Yates Street, Victoria.

Ladies' and gent's garments and household furnishings cleaned, dyed or pressed equal to new. se10-dy&w

FOR SALE OR EXCHANGE for suitable farm on Vancouver Island, 40-acre farm in Chilliwack; all under cultivation; good supply water; one hundred and fifty bearing fruit trees; large barn and outbuildings; small new dwelling house; miles from Chilliwack, on good road. Apply W. Richardson, P. O., Chilliwack.

FIRST-CLASS OPENING to one who can afford to wait a little—Lot or sale, very cheap, $2,000, the Cowichan Lake hotel, Vancouver Island; has warranted a good rent ($1,000) for several years, and will again, when the logging starts; charter for railway applied for; good opening to combine stock farming, having 160 acres, with lots of feed. Apply L. D., 33 Birdcage Walk, Victoria, B. C. mal

Hotel Badminton.

VANCOUVER.

Entirely renovated, furnished and enlarged; heating and lighting (electric) perfect. D. Conte, late of Baldwin hotel, San Francisco, and St. Charles hotel, New Orleans, in charge of the kitchen.

W. H. Mawdsley, Manager.

Hotel Meakin.....

TRAIL, B C

Now under the supervision of JOHN HAVERTY, formerly of Winnipeg, Man.

MINERAL ACT, 1896.

(FORM F.)

CERTIFICATE OF IMPROVEMENT.

NOTICE.

Lenora, Belle, Little Nugget, Chemainus, Shakespear, Ivy Fraction, Alliance Fraction, International Fraction, situate in the Victoria Mining Division of Victoria District. Where located: On the western slope of Mount Sicker.

Take notice that we, the Mt. Sicker and British Columbia Development Company, Ltd., Free Miner's Certificate No. 50832a, intend, sixty days from the date hereof, to apply to the Mining Recorder for a Certificate of Improvements, for the purpose of obtaining a Crown Grant of the above claim.

And further take notice that action, under section 37, must be commenced before the issuance of such Certificate of Improvements.

Dated that ninth day of March, 1899.

HARRY SMITH, Agent.

HOTEL CARGILE,....

ASHCROFT, B. C

Newly renovated, refitted and refurnished; first-class in every respect; all trains met, and baggage attended to free; sample rooms for commercial travellers.

FRED. NELSON, Proprietor.