

THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AND
THE SILVER-LEAD INDUSTRY.

AT a meeting of the Silver-Lead Mine Owners of East and West Kootenay, held at Sandon, British Columbia, on December 10th, 1902, the following resolution was presented by J. L. Parker, and carried unanimously:—

1. Whereas, The silver-lead industry of British Columbia, notwithstanding the usual richness of the ore, the proved continuity of the veins, and the favourable natural conditions of mining in the Province, is, and for some time has been, in a declining condition, which, if not ameliorated, will end in total stagnation. **And**

2. Whereas, the lead-mining camps of the United States, and particularly those in the adjoining state of Idaho, are, and for years have been, enjoying great prosperity, due to a protective tariff conserving the home market. **And**

3. Whereas, the silver-lead mining industry has been for some years of national importance, and, unless allowed to decline, will speedily attain to a much greater degree of importance, benefitting by its increased expenditures the trade and advancement of both Eastern and Western Canada. **And**

4. Whereas, our domestic market for the manufactured products of lead is chiefly supplied from the products of ores mined in Mexico and Europe; where the labour cost of production is much lower than in this country; a condition of affairs permitted by the wholly inadequate protection afforded by the existing tariff; while the prices of white lead, lead pipe, sheet lead and shot, in the Dominion of Canada, are approximately equal to the prices charged for the same commodities in the United States, all to the detriment of the producers, consumers, and transporters of lead in this country. **And**

5. Whereas, under the existing tariff, little or no protection is afforded to the lead producing industries; whilst adequate protection is afforded to all other industries of equal importance, known to us. **And**

6. Whereas, these conditions result in the exportation of a preponderance of our crude ore and bullion, the former to American smelters and the latter to the markets of the world; there to enter into competition with the products of cheap European and Mexican labour, and the surplus product of the protected lead industry of the United States.

7. Therefore, we, the silver-lead miners of the East and West Kootenay Districts of British Columbia in convention assembled do hereby recommend and respectfully urge the enactment of a Tariff Act which will afford ample protection to the producers, manufacturers and transporters of lead, thereby creating and fostering a new and expansive home industry calculated to benefit all classes by the stimulation of national trade and commerce.

Having in view the interests of the producers, manufacturers and consumers of lead, we would re-

commend a duty equal to that imposed by the United States, viz.:

On lead in ores, 1½ cents per pound.

On lead in bullion, pigs, bars, and old lead 2½ cents per pound.

On lead in sheets, pipe, shot, etc., 2½ cents per pound.

On white lead, etc., 2½ cents per pound.

On all other products of lead as provided in the Dingley Tariff Act of July, 24, 1897.

Provided always that if at any time it shall be proved that a combination has been formed for the purpose of unduly increasing the charges made for smelting lead ores produced in Canada, or for refining or marketing lead bullion, or if the charge for smelting and refining in Canada is proved exorbitant, then the Governor-General-in-Council may at his discretion permit the admission into Canada of lead bullion smelted and refined, or smelted or refined in foreign countries, from Canadian lead ores, upon payment of an ad valorem duty of 15 per cent. upon the cost of such smelting and refining.

8. And the Secretary is hereby instructed to forward copies of the foregoing resolutions to the Senators and Members of the Dominion Parliament, representing British Columbia, with the request that they present the same to the Federal Government as a memorial with their endorsement.

LOUIS PRATT,

Secretary Silver-Lead Mine Owners Meeting.
Held at Sandon, B.C., December 10th, 1902.

THE ELMORE OIL PROCESS AT ROSSLAND.

TO THE EDITOR:—I beg to acquaint you that I have recently arrived here to represent the Canadian Ore Concentration Ltd., who own the patent rights for the Elmore Oil Process in Canada. I am making Rossland my headquarters and am installing an experimental hand plant at the above address for the purpose of testing any ores submitted to me. It is quite possible to form a very good idea from these small tests not only whether an ore is amenable to the process or not, but also whether the proposition would present a satisfactory result from a commercial standpoint.

Further and more extensive tests may no doubt be required before the erection of plants of any considerable size would be considered to be justified, but my object now is to make it generally known that a hand testing plant is in the country and that I am here to find out the mines whose ores are most suitable and to inform all people concerned about the various particulars in connection with the process, which they may write for.

Yours faithfully,

H. H. CLOUDET, Assoc. Inst. M. M.

Technical Representative of the Canadian
Ore Concentration, Ltd.

Rossland, B.C.