The Taking Of Evidence

Royal Commission to Inquire Into Oriental Immigration Has Convened.

Expert Evidence of Doctors.. Two Sessions a Day Will be Held.

At ten O'clock Wednesday morning royal commission appointed by the Dominion government to inquire into the Oriental immigration question, met in the offices of the department of public works, post office building. There were present the members of the commission and the following gentlemen: Mayor Hayward, for the city; Dr. C. J. Fagan, secretary provincial board of health; J. D. McNiven, on behalf of organized labor; J. Grant, on behalf of the merchant tailors and journeymen tailors; J. M. Bradburn, counsel representing the Chinese Board of Trade, and R. Cassidy, counsel representing the Japanese.

The first proceeding was the reading by Secretary F. J. Deane, of the royal warrant, authorizing the commission and appointing members. A second warrant appointing Mr. Christopher Foley in the place of Mr. Ralph Smith, M.P., who had resigned from the commission, was also read. The president of the commission, Mr. R. C. Clute, then declared the commission open.

Mr. Clute briefly reviewed the circumstances leading up to the appointment of the commission, beginning with the commission of 1884, and then he referred to the act passed by the Dominion government in 1885, which, with amendments, was still law. The principal provision of this act, he said, was the imposition of a tax of $50 on all Chinese, with certain exceptions, coming into the country, also the restriction of the number allowed to land from any one vessel. Repeated requests for an increase in this tax had since been made both by petition from the legislature of British Columbia and from residents and representatives of various bodies in the province. These had been made in 1891, '93 and '95, and in 1899 the legislature had made a similar request. Finally in 1900, on receipt of another request on the same lines from the legislature, an increase from $50 to $100 had been made in the tax. At the same time the Dominion government had expressed an intention to appoint a commission of inquiry into matters affecting the subject of Oriental immigration. This then was the origin of the commission, which was now convened, and the presiding commissioner stated that it was the desire of the government and of the commissioners that the fullest and freest inquiry should be made into all matters touching the subject of inquiry.

The commission expected the cordial assistance not only of the provincial legislature, which had been in a manner responsible for the institution of the inquiry, but of all parties who could in any way facilitate them in their labors of making investigations. It had been considered by the commissioners that it would facilitate business if this first session should be held preliminary to the calling of any witnesses. Everyone was invited to give evidence, and the evidence submitted would not be limited in any way, as the fullest inquiry would be made. The commission had also thought that the work would be facilitated by preparing a number of questions or heads under which evidence could be grouped; but the inquiry would by no means be limited even to these. It was the idea to treat the evidence as to the Chinese and Japanese separately, so as to give an opportunity not only to present facts regarding each fully, but to give each nationality a separate hearing, as it were. The following points were suggested: 1. The number of Chinese and Japanese in British Columbia; 2. What has been the annual number arriving since the influx first began? These points would be largely covered by certain statistics, the Dominion officials of the customs could furnish.

The commissioner then read the following syllabus of headings or questions under which they suggested that evidence might be submitted:

The commissioners appointed to enquire into Chinese and Japanese immigration desire information upon the following points:

It will be necessary to treat the various questions affecting Chinese and Japanese immigration separately.

The object of the commissioners in suggesting the following subjects is to enable you to give them consideration before evidence touching such of them as may be within your knowledge.

The commissioners will greatly appreciate any information you may be able to give bearing upon the subject.

1. The number of Chinese and Japanese in British Columbia.
2. What has been the annual immigration since 1884?
3. From what class in China and Japan are they principally drawn, and what was their condition before coming here?
4. What is their character for honesty, obedience, diligence, thrift, sobriety, and morality, and keeping of contracts?
5. How many are engaged in—
(a) The Fisheries.
(b) The Mines.
(c) The Lumber Business.
(d) Manufactures.
(e) Farming and Market Gardening.
(f) Domestic Service.
(g) Other Callings.
6. What is the difference in wages paid to Chinese and Japanese, and to the wages of white men in the same trade or calling?
7. Has any industry been called into existence by reason of their presence; and, if so,, what industry, and how?
8. Is there any industry dependent upon their labor for its continuance; and, if so, what industry, and why?
9. How do they come, and under what terms?

(The commissioners explained that the suggestion was made that large numbers came under contract from time to time.)

10. What proportion bring their wives, or marry here, or attend school or churches or become Christians?
11. What is their standard of living, compared with that of the white population—clothing, food, rent, etc.?
12. What is their moral or physical condition, their habits of cleanliness, and attention to sanitary regulations?
13. Do they live in different parts of the city, or in aggregations?
14. What effect has their residence in any place on the price of property in that locality?
15. What proportion live in separate houses and have families?
16. How many Chinese and Japanese women are there in this province; and for what purpose and under what terms were they brought here?
17. Are men and women brought here under servile or other contracts? What is their form and effect?
18. How many Chinese companies or other associations are there; what is their object? How do they affect immigration? Have the "Six Companies" branches in British Columbia?
19. Do Chinese or Japanese immigrants take any interest in our laws and institutions? What proportion build up homes and become permanent citizens or residents?
20. Do they learn our language, customs, habits of living, and show signs that they will eventually assimilate and become an integral part of our race and nation, as Europeans do?
21. How have workmen been affected by Chinese and Japanese immigrants respectively?
22. How has Chinese and Japanese immigration affected white immigration?
23. What proportion of Chinese and Japanese return to their own country, and what proportion of their earnings do they take with them? Do they enrich or impoverish the country?
24. Are the Chinese and Japanese "a menace to health?" And, if so, in what way?
25. Has trade and commerce between Canada and China and Japan been affected by Chinese and Japanese immigration? And how would restrictive or prohibitive measures affect it?
26. The effect of unlimited Chinese and Japanese immigration upon the country?
27. As to the sufficiency of white labor to supply the demands of the country?
28. The criminal class amongst Chinese and Japanese as compared with the white population; the nature of the offences; the number of convictions, etc.?
29. The relative amount of taxes paid, compared with their earning power?
30. With whom do the Chinese and Japanese trade; and to what extent does the country benefit thereby? And what proportion of their earnings do they send or take out of this country?
31. What proportion speak English, and read and write English?
32. Do you make any distinction between Chinese and Japanese immigrants?
33. Do you favor restriction or prohibition of this class of immigrants?
34. How do you propose to prohibit within the existing treaties in force?

The presiding commissioner, after reading the questions, again alluded to the freedom which it was the desire to observe in the matter of giving evidence. Anyone, whether as an individual or representing particular interests, would be given the utmost liberty to submit evidence. Further, it was the desire of the commissioners to suit the convenience of those desiring to attend and give evidence, so that they would possibly be compelled to hold night sessions for those who were unable to attend in the daytime. He emphasized the necessity of eliminating hearsay evidence and said it was not opinions that the commissioners desired to hear, but facts on which the report of the commission could be based. Many details which might appear small and unimportant might in reality have important bearing on the case.

What the commission desired was to obtain a picture, as it were, as nearly as possible showing the manner of living of the Orientals in the province. From a knowledge of these conditions of life, they might arrive at a just conclusion. He then invited any present to state anything they might have to say in connection with the inquiry.

Mr. J. M. Bradburn then introduced himself as counsel retained to appear on behalf of the Chinese, and that he had been retained by the Chinese board of trade. His knowledge of the methods that would be pursued had not been complete, and he had had no idea that such a complete and carefully prepared set of questions for the guidance of the inquiry would be submitted. He could say for the Chinese, or those of them in authority, that they had every desire to assist the commissioners, and were anxious to place at their disposal any information they could on the matters investigated. He thought that as there was the element of sitting in judgment on the question of desirability of the Chinese being in the country, as there had been complaints lodged against them, it would be only fair that the evidence of white witnesses should be given first, except evidence in rebuttal of any that might be submitted by the Chinese.

President Clute did not agree with the proposal of Mr. Bradburn, though admitting that there was much force in his argument. The commission was not sitting as a court, trying a case, but merely hearing evidence, and any evidence would be admitted at any stage of the inquiry, either here or elsewhere.

Mayor Hayward then addressed the commissioners on behalf of the city of Victoria, and said the city would be pleased at any time to afford all facility, by means of the civic officials and documents and records, to enable the commission to carry out its duties. He did not feel that personally he could offer any evidence, except that which as a citizen for some 40 years he might be able to give from his observance of the relations of the Chinese population with the rest of the community. He could, however, suggest the names of some of the city officials who would be able to give evidence from their knowledge gathered in an official capacity.

Mr. J. D. McNiven, of the Typographical Union, on behalf of organized labor, though not as a delegate of the Trades and Labor council, said all the unions had expressed their desire to give any evidence they could to aid the commission. The labor element was, of course, the class that largely was making complaint, and the people naturally would look to them for evidence.

Mr. Clute spoke of the absence of the representative of the provincial government, and the information was volunteered that they were all engaged meeting deputations.

Dr. Fagan, provincial medical health officer, then addressed the commission, and while speaking very flatteringly of the high personal qualities and attainments of the members of the commission, he said he could not refrain from criticizing the lack of a skilled authority on sanitation, which was one of the most important aspects of the whole question. He promised every assistance that his department could afford in the inquiry. He felt that the matter was in danger of being ignored from the absence of a medical expert on the commission who could bring out all the evidence on the sanitary points which would come up.

Mr. Clute said he thought the matter had not been ignored. The term sanitation was adopted as being broad enough to cover all that would be necessary in the inquiry. He and the other commissioners would be glad to adopt any suggestion of Dr. Fagan or other members of the profession.

Mr. J. A. Grant, from the Merchant Tailors' Association, then addressed the commission, and asked if there was to be cross-questioning by the lawyers who he saw were present on behalf of the Chinese and Japanese. Without any disrespect to the profession, he said the parties he represented would object to being "bullyragged"" by lawyers and cross-questioned when they were not in a position to afford counsel to handle their case. They were ready to give evidence, but were not equal to coping with lawyers.

Mr. Clute assured the gentleman that any cross-questioning would be by the commissioners. He asked when the tailors could be able to give evidence, and Mr. Grant replied that they could go on on Thursday.

Mr. Clute then spoke of the matter of procedure. He said that the officials could give certain information from statistics of the number coming in each year, and if possible they would find where they came from and to what class they belonged in their own country; then the different avocations they went into here, how many in each, the wages and the difference from wages paid white men in the same callings, and how many white men were displaced.

Mayor Hayward handed a list of names of officials who could give evidence, and the secretary was asked to communicate with them.

The commission then adjourned until 2 o'clock in the afternoon.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON.

When the commission convened, the provincial government was represented by Mr. Charles Wilson, K. C., who stated that he had been retained by the province to follow the proceedings in the public interests, and to assist anyone in placing their evidence before the commission.

J. D. Graham, gold commissioner for Atlin, was the first witness examined, and the principal points asked him were upon the number of Orientals in the Atlin district. This was practically nil, since there had been only a few Japanese, and these had been forced to leave.

Mr. R. Cassidy, who represents the Japanese, asked permission to take up a point which he understood had been raised in his absence at the morning session, and that was with reference to cross-questioning by counsel retained by the various interests. He did not ask it because of a desire to cross-question Mr. Graham, but to bring up the whole matter, and he argued that it would in no way be detrimental if counsel were permitted to put questions, not in the searching manner of cross-examination in court, but merely to bring out points in the evidence.

Some little discussion ensued on the point, and it was at last laid over for consideration by the commissioners, with the understanding that they would decide it one way or the other in the morning. It was, however, tacitly allowed that questions might be asked through the commission, and the experience of the afternoon was that the commissioners were disposed to allow every latitude, and as a result direct questions were put by counsel. President Clute, however, thought the lawyers and the other interests should meet and confer with the object of reaching an agreement on the point, the commission having no desire to make an arbitrary ruling.

Mr. Bradburn asked if he might have a question or two put to the witness. With reference to his statement of preference to dealing with Japanese than Chinese. He understood witness to say that he thought the Japanese more honest than Chinese. The evidence was read to show Mr. Graham had said he thought the Japanese more manly. To a further question, Mr. Graham said he based his opinion on the adoption of Western habits by Japanese.

To questions put by Mr. Wilson, Mr. Graham considered Chinese laborers were less desirable than white, because, for one thing, they were not cleanly in their habits, which he knew from his police experience. He could not say as to the relative merits of Chinese and whites relative merits of Chinese and whites as laborers. As to Japanese who were in Atlin, they had been engaged in restaurant business. They had failed for lack of patronage. To Mr. Cassidy he said these men had conducted their restaurant enterprise themselves.

To Commissioner Munn Mr. Graham said that there had been but two Chinese in Atlin. For one of them the steamboat company had put up $2,000 to the United States government as a guarantee that he should not go to the United States. He replied to a further question by saying he did not think there were any mining claims in Atlin not worked because of cost of labor. To Commissioner Foley's question as to whether he favored the exclusion of Chinese, he said as a government official he preferred not to answer. When he was a private citizen he had always had an antipathy to them as all wage earners.

Dr. R. L. Fraser, medical health officer of the city, said he was fairly well acquainted with the Chinese quarter, which he thought was not as clean as might be, though much improved. Causes of uncleanliness were overcrowding and uncleanly habits. The Chinese were satisfied with smaller quarters, with less yard room, and other conveniences. They also neglected proper sanitary and plumbing appliances. To the president of the commission he said he had seen in a room 20x10 or 12 feet as many as eight single cot beds. He could not say as to the value of the beds and bedding. Cooking was in many instances carried on in the same room. Replying to President Clute's question as to what were the difficulties regarding sanitary arrangements, he said the Chinese were very careless as to keeping sanitary appliances in order. He gave instances of gross violations of sanitary regulations. As to prevalence of disease among the Chinese, he had no statistics. He had little experience of professionally visiting Chinese, who very seldom call in a physician. He understood that a majority of the Chinese have come from Hongkong, and were of the coolie class. He said the Chinese were a menace to the health of the city. For instance, if a Chinaman had a case of smallpox, he would conceal it and take no steps to prevent contagion. He had no knowledge of any Chinese ever reporting a case of contagious disease to the health department. He gave details of a case of smallpox two and a half years ago, in which two Chinamen hired an express wagon and placed the patient in a box, nailing a cover on. It was the intention to take the patient to a vegetable farm outside of the city. The horses ran away and the box being thrown down, the Chinaman got out and a city policeman recognized the man's condition, and thus the smallpox was discovered. As to the rates of wages and the influence of Chinese residence on property values, he knew nothing. He thought the influence of Chinese was a detriment to the community, speaking generally. His reason for thinking so was that an equal number of white men employed instead of the Chinese laborers in the city would be much more beneficial to trade.

To Commissioner Munn he said he had no knowledge of the Chinese doctors, and had met but one, and he could not speak English. He knew of no Japanese doctors in the city. As to lepers, so far as known, there were no cases in the city. Four patients were on Darcey island. The last case occurred 14 months ago, the victim being taken from Sidney—and he had since died. Precautions which were now taken at Willism Head reduced danger of spreading leprosy to a minimum.

To Mr. Branburn, he said he thought the Chinese were law-abiding. He believed that as a class they would like to ignore sanitary regulations, but fear of the law deterred them. Much improvement had gone on in Chinatown, and a better class of buildings erected,in some instances by Chinese themselves. Cooks and laundrymen largely predominated among the Chinese. Of those employed as domestics, most of them had their food where they were employed. The prosperous Chinese lived in the same district with the other classes. The children of the better classes went to public schools and wore European dress. Many of the Chinese wore European dress. He had not heard of any serious crime committed in the city by Chinese, the principal offence being against street and sanitary by-laws. The Health of the Chinese was affected by their manner of living. If it were known, he thought, the death rate would be found to be higher. Deaths, he thought, were frequently occurring, which he thought would have been prevented by scientific treatment. The Chinese by their manners of living, with the bad surroundings and vitiated atmosphere they breathed, were less healthy as a class. As to leprosy, very strict precautions were observed to keep it out. Practically all lepers in the province had been Chinese. A man might be leprous for many years before it would show. The last leper had been in the province three years before it showed. It was considered authoritative that leprosy was contracted by contagion alone. He had not known of any case of contagion spreading here. He thought there was no great danger to the white population from Chinese lepers.

To Mr. Wilson he said the disease was contagious at any period. As to observing the regulations on registering births and deaths, he said as to the latter, they could not bury without registering and getting a permit.

Mr. Clute read from last year's health report of the city of Vancouver, showing 19 deaths from tuberculosis in a total of 32 Chinese. Dr. Fraser said that was a high rate.

To Mr. Foley he said he did not know that the Chinese brought contagion. When an epidemic occurred greater precautions were taken in Chinatown. He favored restriction and even exclusion.

To Mr. Clute, Dr. Fraser said the Japanese lived in many ways more like white people. The lower classes were fully as dirty in their habits as Chinese. Establishment of Japanese boarding houses brought complaints from surrounding people as to dirty conditions. He thought the Japanese lived very similarly to Chinese.

To Mr. Cassidy he said the Japanese did not live in one quarter of the city, as the Chinese did. There were Japanese boarding houses in several parts of the city. As to their food, the Japanese largely lived on fish and rice, which he considered very unsavory.

The Japanese avail themselves of white physicians exclusively and patronize hospitals largely. The Japs being found at white dealers' stores. He had been in Japanese boarding houses. The Japanese bed, with wooden block for pillow, was not anything worthy of remark. To Mr. Bradburn, who referred to his reply re exclusion he said he believed most of the housework and laboring was done by Chinese. If they are excluded there might be temporary embarrassment, but he believed it would be better to have them excluded.

To Mr. Foley he said he thought he would favor exclusion of Japanese. White servants would be more plentiful if Japanese and Chinese were excluded.

Dr. Watt, superintendent of quarantine for the four years past, was the next witness. He said he believed the Chinese in British Columbia were all from four provinces or districts near Canton. They were mostly of the coolie class, laborers. He had no personal knowledge of the conditions of bringing out of the majority. He always understood most of them were brought out by companies. He did not know the name of such companies or where they could be found. When they arrive most of the Chinese are in laborers' dress. He did not know definitely as to what money they brought. He thought they had very little as a general thing; $2 or $3 would cover cost of clothing they wore. Generally they continue to wear their native dress. They brought their own bedding with perhaps $5. Most of the immigrants are adults, ranging from say 15 to 40 years. Very few can speak English. He generally knew those who had been in the country before. He did not know how much money the Chinese sent back to China out of their wages.

The Chinese usually follow their own habits in disposing of refuse and observing sanitary regulations.

Asked to describe quarters occupied by laborers he said small rooms were the rule with bunks round the wall, with a mat or quilt to lie upon. A small table, chair and the beds would bethe principal furniture. Food was principally rice and fish, the former brought from China. They dealt with their own merchants. In his experience he had known a few who had adopted European clothing and discarded the queue.

Dr. Watt considered the usual Chinatown a menace to health; that of Victoria is possibly in the most sanitary condition. Old Wooden buildings here had been condemned on fire regulations. He thought Chinese were peculiarly subject to tuberculosis. The proportion as in the Vancouver health report was a high one, though it was not as high as the real number, many returning to China when they became ill.

To Mr. Foley—He said he did not know that an agent was appointed by any of the companies to look after the arrivals. He knew of women being sent back to China on the supposition of having been brought here for immoral purposes. Personally he believed the country would be better off without the Chinese.

To Mr. Wilson he said he did not think the presence of the Chinese was beneficial to the country. They did not furnish their houses in the manner white people understood the term. As to motives for Chinese discarding the queue, one had become a Christian, while another had done so for business purposes. As a general rule however, the Chinese did not assimilate, their tendency being the other way. He did not think the effect of Chinese immigration would be a good thing. Of late the immigration has been falling off.

To Mr. Bradburn he said he had seen a number of Chinese children going to school and adopting the white costume. He knew that tuberculosis was prevalent in England and that there and elsewhere whole families were sometimes swept away. The climate here he did not consider at all bad—Chinese use rice grown in their own country. Cabins occupied by white people in this country were small also. He had seen a good deal of the Chinese in Victoria and knew of their conditions for some years. There had been considerable improvement in conditions. Chinese merchants lived comfortably but were not of the same class as the laborers.

He considered the Chinese were a law-abiding class of citizens.

To Mr. Clute he said he had been secretary of the Provincial Board of Health for some years prior to assuming his present duties. He detailed what he had known then of the habits carried on by Chinese in disposing of effete matter.

Mr. Bradburn asked of the witness knew the pail system was in force in Manchester.

To Mr. Foley Dr. Watt said it had been considered necessary to disinfect all effects of Chinese and Japanese immigrants, owing to the prevalence of plague and other epidemics in the Orient. Now the system has been changed and the disinfection is done in China and Japan before the vessel leaves port. It was possible for a case of such a disease as smallpox to develop after passing quarantine.

To Mr. Wilson, regarding suggestions as to changes in regulations, the witness said it might be better to quarantine the Orientals before taking ship at the other side.

Japanese who came here last year were mostly of the farming class; some fishermen.

They wear their own costume on the vessel but bring a complete suit of European clothing to wear on their arrival.All Japanese bound to American ports have $30 each. Of those who come to British Columbia some have money, mostly from $10 to $30 or $40. In clothing they have kimnnds and European clothing. Their ages are from 16 to 30 years. Most of them come to get work, but last year many were received by immigration companies, who told them that railroads and other work would be under construction. Agents of these companies were supposed to be in most Japanese boarding houses. He didn't think they came the same way as Chinese by being brought out by companies and hired under contract.

As to habits, on the streets they behave like white people. At home they keep up Japanese customs. They live in large numbers in one house. Last year when there was large immigration they crowded more. They live in very much the same way as in Japan. Their large building houses are crowded as much as the Chinese. As to the different wages, the Japanese work for much less than white men and less than Chinese. There had been practically no arrivals of Japanese since August last year. He thought it much easier to make the Japanese conform to sanitary laws than Chinese. Their own physicians understand, and the knowledge is permeating the people. Their habits and modes of life less fixed than Chinese, possibly two or three per cent of the Japs bring their wives, but leave children behind as a rule. There are Japanese prostitutes in this country, though all Japanese women are supposed to be married when leaving Japan. The government tried to prevent prostitutes leaving the country.

To Mr. Munn he said Japanese have more money than Chinese when coming to this country. The greater proportion had money. Japs are met on arrival here by others, who call themselves agents of immigration companies, similar to employment agencies. Dr. Watt's personal opinion was that he would prefer to see all white people in the country. It was a great trouble to get Chinese to report cases of contagious diseases. He spoke from personal experience. They object on the ground of detention and treatment by white physicians. Even on the steamers arriving it was common for them to hide their sick.

To Mr. Foley the witness said many of the Japanese go back to Japan in the winter, returning in the spring.Fares had been in the past as low as $7, and the ordinary fare was about $30. Mr. Cassidy concluded the day's evidence by a lengthy cross examination of the witness, the main points being on the mode of living of the Japanese and whether they brought their own food from Japan. The learned counsel was very determined to elicit from the witness the statement that from his knowledge they did not bring much food stuffs from Japan. The witness very emphatically, however, stated that he knew and had seen the ship's manifests showing that great quantities of Jananese food stuffs were brought out from Japan for use by the Japanese here. He also gave details of the construction and class of the principal large buildings in this city used for Japanese boarding houses. Dr. Watt was secretary of the Provincial Board of Health previous to being quarantine officer, and is therefore in a position to give accurate information on many of the subjects inquired into respecting the habits and mode of life of both the Chinese and Japanese. In lesed, both he and Dr. Fraser described many of the well known tricks of the Chinese vegetable gardeners from their own personal observance, as well as instances of to say the least, disgusting acts on the part of individual Orientals. Mr. Cassidy in one instance endeavored to get the witness to draw comparisons of an obvious invidious between some Japanese and those epicures of the white race, who, as the gentleman said in framing a question, thought they were very select in their tastes, and yet would not eat certain sorts of game till it had been hung by the feet till the body dropped off. The cross-examination of these two witnesses extended to greater length than the evidence-in-chief.

Mr. Chas. Wilson, just before the adjournment was taken, offered to see the attorneygeneral and try to have one of the court rooms placed at the disposal of the commission, as the rooms at present occupied in the P. O. building are rather crowded.

Are free from all crude and irritating matter. Concentrated medicine only. Carter's Little Liver Pills. Very small; very easy to take; no pain; no griping, no purging. Try them.

ANNUAL MEETING.

Vancouver, March 13.—(Special)—The letter carriers' petition for an increase in salary was endorsed by the board of trade at the annual meeting last night. The financial report showed a sound financial condition of the board, the membership at present is 183. Reports of the salmon and lumber industries were not favorable. The report on mining was more hopeful. The business outlook was referred to as on the whole satisfactory. It was stated that $1,500,000 had been spent in building during the last year, that the population of Vancouver was between 30,000 and 35,000, and the assessed value of property $15,250,000.

The annual meeting of the Terminal City Cycling Club was held last night. The secretary's report shows a balance of $397 in the club's favor. The following officers were elected for the current year: President, W. Hodson; first vice-president, W. H. Quann; second vice-president, —. Prescott; secretary, O. L. Spence; treasurer, F. C. Allan; captain, D. B. Blackmore; first lieutenant, T. H. Calland; second lieutenant, Fred. Blackmore; time-keeper, G. E. T. Trorey; handicapper, J. F. Martin.

The police committee have decided to proceed with the police investigation although there were really no specific charges against the police that they could consider. The following resolution was passed: "That an advertisement be inserted in each daily paper in Vancouver giving notice to all persons having any complaint concerning the efficiency and conduct of the police force or any member thereof, or wishing to bring before the committee any matters relating thereto, such complaints or matters be sent in writing, addressed to the chairman of the police committee, marked, "Police Investigation, Confidential," before 12 o'clock noon, on the 25th day of March 1901, the police committee at its next meeting to decide as to the course to be pursued to bring such complaints and matters before the Chief Justice to be heard and inquired into by

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The very latest creations in Suitings just received. Made to order and fit guaranteed. from $12 to $25.

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53 Store Street.

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Our $3.00 Shoe for Men is the best in town.
Our $2.00 Ladies' Clothtop, button or lace, is a dandy.
Our $1.75 Shoe for Men, lace Dongola, is hard to beat.
Our $1.25 Misses' Dongola, button or lace, is full of style.
Our $1.50 Boys' Box Calf, lace, sizes 1 to 5, wear well.

We are giving the best value in the city for the money, and we want everybody to know it.

Shoe Store Opposite City Hall, Douglas Stree.

Jas. Maynard

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GOOD BOY WANTED—For Gideon Hicks & Co.' piano store, 88 Government street. About 15 years of age. m14

WANTED—1,000 cords heavy timber last year's wood. Apply H., care Colonist.

WANTED—Resident Governess for three children, eldest ten. State experience, with reference. P. O. Box 86. m14

WANTED—To rent furnished house. Every care taken of same. Address V., this office. m13

WANTED—Board and room for lady and children. Address D., Colonist office. m13

WANTED—Governess for three children, eldest ten. State experience, with reference. P. O. Box 68. m13

WANTED—Two housekeeping rooms by adults. Address D. D., the Colonist. m13

WANTED—An up-to-date No. 1 bookkeeper for a large retail firm. Apply to "3" Colonist office. m10

WANTED—Girl for light housework. Apply 73 Discovery St. m1

FOR SALE.

FOR SALE—10-roomed house and corner lot, Vancouver and Victoria street, $2400. J. W. Mellor. m14

FOR SALE—One partly paid up share in Vancouver Building Society, will be sold at a bargain, as the owner is about to leave the province. J. L. Miller, 81 Johnson street. m14

FOR SALE—Fire-proof combination iron safe. Cheap for spot cash. 81 Johnson street. m14

FOR SALE—Phaeton in good condition. Can be seen at Barlow's stables. m14

A MODERN RESIDENCE, with all conveniences, and heated by steam, on Belcher street. Price, $5,250. Heisterman & Co., 75 Government street. m14

A BARGAIN—Good house and lot. Just off Burnside Road. $400. m14

MILCH COWS FOR SALE—In good condition. Can be seen at Fred's Curiosity Store Stables. Just from the country. Fresh calved. Remember the place, corner Yates and Blanchard street, opposite Dominion Hotel. m13

FOR SALE—A modern residence with steam heat and all other conveniences, and five acres of land, in good locality and commanding a good view. Price very low. Heisterman & Co. m12

CABIN PROPERTY FOR SALE, part cash, part on mortgage. Address P. O. Box 180. m12

FOR SALE OR RENT—160 acres at Warnock, B. C., from 15 to 20 acres cleared. Good farm for dairying purposes or raising thoroughbred stock. Convenient to cars or boats, postoffice and stores; school. Good buildings, etc, $3500. Apply 165 Johnston street. m10

FOR SALE OR TO LET—A bargain chicken ranch, three miles out on the best public road. All picket fenced, with comfortable cottage, chicken houses, barn, well. Good living to begin with. Fine building site and health resort. Apply Ranch, 110 Yates street. m6

FOR SALE—At Five Fingers, Yukon Territory, 250 bales hay, 12 cents per lb. Fred Weiss, care Telegraph Operator, Five Fingers. m4

FOR SALE—White Wyandotte eggs, $2 per setting; also Brown Leghorns; Cornish Indian Game and Plymouth Rock, $1 per setting. Inspection of stock invited. Mrs. Edwards, Cadboro Bay. Leave orders at Speed Bros. m2

FOR SALE—A good strong express wagon, nearly new. Can be seen at Meston's Carriage Works. f24

EGGS FOR HATCHING—From imported stock. Langshans, Brown Leghorns, Minorcas, Plymouth Rocks, White Wyandottes. Price from $1.50 to $2.00 per setting. Leave orders at W. A. Jameson, 33 Fort street. Quick Bros., Cadboro Bay.19

FOR SALE—Restaurant; first-class; doing good business; long lease; good reasons for selling. Address Owner W., Colonist. f17

EDUCATIONAL.

EDUCATIONAL—Miss C. G. Fox has reopened her school, at 36 Mason street. f1

SHORTHAND SCHOOL—15 Broad street. Individual instruction in shorthand, typewriting and book-keeping. f29

MISCELLANEOUS.

POPULAR SATURDAY EVENING CONcerts, Temperance Hall, "Irish Night," March 16th. Best programme offered yet by well known performers. No increase in admission fee. Only 10 cents. m14

JAPANESE LILY BULBS and plants just arrived at Japanese store on Douglas street. m18

NEW SPRING STUFFS arrived at Fuji Company, Japanese Tailor shop, 156 Government street. Call and try us. m13

IF ANY PARTY WISHES TO DISPOSE of his furnishings privately, address "Confidential," Colonist office. m10

DR. MARY M'NIEL has removed to 200 Pandora avenue. P. O. Box 431. m9

INSURE YOUR HOUSE AND FURNITURE against fire in Western Assurance Co. and Norwich Union Fire Insurance Society. Heisterman & Co., general agents. f9

MONEY TO LOAN on all kinds of improved city property, at lowest rates. Heisterman & Co., 75 Government street. f9

THE YORK LAUNDRY MACHINERY & Supply Co., Limited, 82 Church street, Works, North Toronto.

LOST OR FOUND.

FOUND—A small fur boa. Owner can have same by proving property at this office. m9

TO LET OR LEASE.

TO LET—Furnished or unfurnished front rooms. 47½ View Street. m14

TO LET—Pleasant sunny rooms, very central and moderate. 126 Vancouver St. m13

TO RENT—7-room house, close to car line, Rock Bay avenue. Fully furnished, with piano, sewing machine and telephone. Would rent for six months or less at $35.00 per month. Flint & Co., 17 Trounse avenue. m13

FOR RENT—Two housekeeping rooms; every convenience, 43 View street. m13

COMFORTABLE HOME FOR GENTLEmen, with first class board. Terms, one dollar per day. Reference exchanged. Apply 173 Pandora Avenue. m12

TO RENT—(Right of purchase if desired), for 5 or more years, 130 acres, 50 in pasture; 200 fruit trees, good house, barn, etc etc., good land, timber, postoffice, school, wharf. Rent $150 per year. Apply M., North Pender Island. m12

LARGE FURNISHED ROOM suitable for one or two gentlemen, 53 Michigan St.

ROOM AND BOARD for 3 gentlemen. Apply to 138 Blanchard, corner of Discovery. m9

FURNISHED ROOMS TO LET—With use of bath. Apply 52 Rae St. m1

TO LET—Offices in the Board of Trade Building. All modern conveniences. For particulars apply to the secretary on the Premises. f21

COMFORTABLE Furnished front rooms, with use of kitchen, if required. 139 Michigan street.

TO LET—A large front bedroom, also a single bedroom, with or without breakfast. Apply 165 Johnston street between 5 and 6 o'clock. m10

NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS.

Electoral Districts of Victoria City, South Victoria and Esquimalt, and the Land Districts of Rupert, Sayward, Quatsino, Coast, Queen Charlotte Islands, North Saanich and part of Barclay and Clayoquot.

Notice is hereby given, in accordance with the Statutes, that Revenue Tax and all taxes levied under the "Assessment Act" are now due for the year 1901. Assessed taxes are collectable at the following rates, viz:

If paid on or before the 30th day of June, 1901:

Three-fifths of one per cent on real property.

Two and one-half per cent on assessed value of wild land.

One-half of one per cent, on personal property.

On so much of the income of any person as exceeds one thousand dollars in accordance with the following classification, upon such excess the rates shall be, namely:

Class A.—On one thousand dollars and not exceeding ten thousand dollars, one per cent, up to five thousand dollars, and two per cent. on the remainder:

Class B.—On ten thousand dollars and not exceeding twenty thousand dollars, one and one-half per cent. up to ten thousand dollars, and two and one-half per cent on the remainder:

Class C.—On twenty thousand dollars and not exceeding forty thousand dollars, two and one-half per cent. up to twenty thousand dollars, and three per cent on the remainder:

Class D.—On all others in excess of forty thousand dollars, three per cent. up to forty thousand dollars, and three and one-half per cent on the remainder.

If paid on or after 1st July, 1901:

Four-fifths of one per cent. on real property.

Three per cent on the assessed value of wild land.

Three-fourths of one per cent, on personal property.

Upon such excess of income:

Class A.—On one thousand dollars and not exceeding ten thousand dollars, one and one-half per cent up to five thousand dollars, and two and one-half per cent on the remainder:

Class B.—On ten thousand dollars and not exceeding twenty thousand dollars, two per cent up to ten thousand dollars, an dthree per cent on the remainder:

Class C.—On twenty thousand dollars and not exceeding forty thousand dollars, three per cent up to twenty thousand dollars, and three and one-half per cent on the remainder:

Class D.—On all others in excess of forty thousand dollars, three and one-half per cent. up to forty thousand dollars, and four per cent on the remainder.

Revenue Tax, $3.00 per capita (Victoria City excepted.)

C. BOOTH.
Assessor and Collector.

Victoria, B. C., February 28th, 1901.

CANCELLATION OF RESERVE, CASSIAR DISTRICT.

NOTICE is hereby given that the reservation placed on Crown lands situate in the Bennett Lake and Atlin Mining Divisions of Cassiar District, notice of which was published in the British Columbia Gazette and dated 13th December, 1898, is hereby cancelled.

W. C. WELLS,
Chief Commissioner of Lands and Wor .