LONG DISCUSSION ON MINING TAX

VIEWS OF MEMBERS OF THE INSTITUTE

Closing Session at Nelson Was Devoted to E. B. Kirby's Paper—The Next Meeting.

The closing session of the Canadian Mining Institute at Nelson on Friday afternoon was almost entirely devoted to the discussion of Edmund B. Kirby's paper on "The Influence of Government on Mining," or rather of that portion of it that dealt with the alleged proportion of taxes borne by the mining industry.

There was a good gathering when Chairman Hedley called the meeting to order. The first matter taken up was the prospective meeting of the American institute of mining engineers in British Columbia next year. It was stated that the minister of mines was trying to arrange for such a meeting to be held in Victoria in September, 1903, and that there had been some correspondence in the matter. The opinion of the meeting was that nothing should be done to clash with arrangements already under way, but that the provincial branch of the Canadian mining institute would gladly co-operate with the department of mines in making the visit a success.

The appointment of an executive committee to complete the organization of the provincial branch of the institute was the next order of business. The following gentlemen were selected to act in this capacity, with S. S. Fowler as chairman: Messrs. Fowler and Hedley, Nelson; Macdonald and Kirby, Rossland; Keffer, Greenwood; Parrish, Eholt; Garde, Slocan; Cronin, Moyie; Tonkin, Fernie; Hobson, Cariboo; Robertson, Victoria, and Brewer, Vancouver. The committee have power to add to their number, and will fix the date of the first regular meeting of the branch, which will probably be held at Victoria during the next session of the legislature.

These preliminaries being disposed of, the chairman invited discussion of Mr. Kirby's paper.

H. E. Croasdaile said that there were statements contained in this paper of a very grave nature. He did not question the accuracy of Mr. Kirby's figures, but he thought the exact data from which they were derived should be given. The bald statement that the mining industry of the province had to bear 20 per cent. of the total taxation would assuredly have the effect of restraining capital from coming into the country. It should be shown in detail just how that estimate is arrived at. Another statement made by Mr. Kirby was that 2 per cent. tax absolutely bars the treatment of low-grade ores. Upon the estimates of Mr. Kirby the mining industry of the province had to bear over $4,000,000 of the annual taxation, and this upon a production of $15,000,000.

E. B. Kirby, in response to Mr. Croasdaile, prefaced his remarks by assuring the meeting that he would not have dared to publish over his own signature such appalling figures had he not exercised the utmost care in compiling them and had he not by painstaking investigation satisfied himself of their entire accuracy. The figures are taken from the provincial government statistics, save in determining the relative amounts shifted by the other industries upon the mining industry. These could only be approximately estimated, but in allowing an additional 10 per cent. he did not think any over estimate was made. In the memorial of the Mine Owners' Association, issued last year, all the statistics are handled in detail, and show that 22 7-10 per cent. of the gross products of the mines of the province have been consumed in taxation. "These figures have stood, although the report has been hammered at and criticized by the enemies of the mine owner. These figures have not been impugned, and cannot be, because they are true, and it is easy to prove the truth of them. I would be only too glad to go into detail in the matter, and I have some of the data with me and the rest in Rossland to prove anything desired in the matter."

H. E. Crosdaile—I must point out that Mr. Kirby has ignored my question. How is he able to show that because the province pays taxes amounting to $5,400,000, that therefore the mining industry pays in taxation 20 per cent. of the total product?

E. B. Kirby—As to that, the total production of the province from every source is $27,000,000. Out of this $5,400,000 is paid back in taxation. Last year we produced from the country itself $27,000,000, and of this the government took $5,400,000, which is what we have to pay for the privilege of being governed. Out of what is left we must pay running expenses and dividends. This taxation is derived from the industries represented in this case by mining, fisheries, lumber, etc. Of these others, what proportion are supported by mining? Of the total sum 55 per cent. is paid directly by mining. Then when it comes to the supplies used in mining, the cost of which the government by its taxes has enormously increased, it can easily be seen that the proportion is as I say. As to supplies—what is there that we use that is not taxed to its full capacity? In placing the whole at 30 per cent., I am guessing, if you will. Some of you may estimate it as less and some may estimate it as more, but I think you will acknowledge that is not likely to be far astray.

S. S. Fowler—What Mr. Croasdaile would like to know is how that $5,400,000 of taxation is derived. In answer to that I suppose the returns from the ports of entry should show a proportion, so much from duties on machinery, etc., and the provincial returns show how much is paid on mining real estate, etc. All these are paid in cash. While Mr. Kirby mentioned his authorities, I presume Mr. Croasdaile wishes to hear an explicit report showing how much had been paid in duties on machinery, etc.

H. E. Croasdaile—I thought that Mr. Kirby had probably gone into the figures thoroughly to apportion the amount paid by mining. It is rather a bold statement to say that mining is loaded up with such an immense tax without the figures to support it. I must protest that such a statement that the mines are paying a tax of 30 per cent. on their gross output should not be made without the clearest proof that such was the case. It is a very harmful statement.

Mr. Kirby—There is nothing more that I can explain except that there is no guesswork about the figures on which the conclusions are based. They are as accurate as possible, and there would be no difficulty in looking up the references quoted.

B. T. A. Bell—While fully appreciating the value of Mr. Kirby's remarks, I think it is giving somewhat an erroneous conception of the present depression to blame it entirely on the 2 per cent. tax. All will admit that over-capitalization, poor management and inflation have had a good deal to do with present conditions, and from these the province is gradually recovering.

E. B. Birby—The 2 per cent. tax bears upon the low-grade ore especially. There is an enormous tonnage blocked out which that tax makes unavailable. Rossland is a particular case in point.

A. McEvoy—I would like to know how Mr. Kirby apportions the taxes collected in the Kootenay district. Is he taking into account the poll tax, the liquor and trade licenses? Are all these charged to mining? Does it cost more to take out ore in a camp that has a saloon than a camp without one? Liquor licenses alone contribute very largely to the revenue of the country, without mentioning the customs duties on liquors, etc.

E. B. Kirby—Without going into details it is only necessary to say that the financial statements of the provincial government and the reports of the Dominion government show all possible taxes. Take Rossland or the Boundary district for example. Where does the money that pays all the taxes come from? Suppose the mines all close, how much money would continue coming in for taxes.

A. McEvoy—I don't think that a fair distribution. When a storekeeper in Nelson pays his trade license or duties on goods imported, it is hardly fair to charge it to mining.

H. E. Croasdaile—If Mr. Kirby's logic is correct, if the mines produce more, then the taxes must go up. If the mines produced $20,000,000, then taxation would go up a million dollars. The only way to consider the situation is to get a direct statement of the taxation of mines, as mines.

W. Thompson—I must say that I am surprised to see Mr. Croasdaile stand up and make the assertion that the only thing to be taken into consideration is the direct taxation. I agree fully with Mr. Kirby that the mines are taxed from 20 to 30 per cent. We can only draw comparisons with an adjoining country. In British Columbia the mining section is situated in the Rocky Mountain belt, and the only other mining country with which we come into competition is the continuation of that Rocky Mountain belt lying in the United States to the south of us. We hear golden stories about the wealth of ore the mountains in British Columbia contain, and many of these stories are perfectly correct. But, unless those ores can be taken out and treated at a profit, they might just as well never be there as far as the country is concerned. Now, for exauple. The Le Roi mine needed a hoisting engine. It could not be purchased in Canada, and when it arrived at Rossland there was just $6,000 duty to pay on it. Surely there could hardly be a more direct tax on the mine. What it meant was that to work that mine, machinery that in Northport would cost $14,000, in Rossland cost $20,000. Even on powder there is a tax of three cents per pound. A tax of 20 per cent. on fuse and caps. Steel rails, candles and every mortal thing we use except two-inch pipe and some of the fittings used with diamond drills are taxed from 5 to 30 per cent. Even blacksmith's coal must pay duty. The taxes of the merchants come out of the mines.

B. T. A. Bell—I am glad that this matter has been mentioned here, and would like to have it dealt with fully. The Dominion government have no wish to burden the mining industry by excessive duties on the machinery they use. You should draw up a free list of the articles you wish exempted from taxation. The only desire of the Dominion government is to furnish an adequate amount of protection to the companies in Canada that are manufacturing specific articles. There are a large number of articles that could be admitted free if the facts were presented properly to Mr. Fielding. The present administration is anxious to assist the mining industry in every way possible.

Smith Curtis—I think we should all feel thankful that this all important subject has been brought to the front. As to the amount of taxes, Mr. Kirby's figures are correct. I have already had occasion to go over the returns spoken of and verify them and found that all were substantially correct. In dealing with the whole of the production of the province it will be found that the great proportion of it is exported, and this makes it easy to figure on the proportion of taxes each bears. As Mr. Kirby says, the duties have to be paid for in cash. We have a large proportion of this burden put upon mining, metalliferous and coal, and we have the right to know the destination of those taxes. If the taxes were applied to proper use there would be no kick. I found upon investigation that a vast proportion of the taxes came out of the mines. For instance, I asked in the legislature how much taxation per acre was paid on agricultural land. I was told 3½ cents, while upon the land of the unworked crown granted mineral claims there is a tax of 25 cents an acre. It undoubtedly is a bad thing for an impression to go abroad that mining in British Columbia is taxed 25 or 30 per cent. on the gross output, but it is worse for it to be so. In Ontario the customs duties paid per head average $4; in British Columbia $20. Taking into consideration the large amount of taxes paid per capita here as compared with Ontario and the east we are entitled to have special treatment. Even if the taxation, direct and indirect, amounts to 20 per cent. of our exports it ought not to be a grievous burden if properly adjusted, and the proceeds equitably distributed. The 2 per cent. tax bears hardest upon the low-grade properties, which support communities to a far greater extent than the high grade.

At the conclusion of Mr. Smith Curtis's remarks, a motion was adopted that Mr. Kirby's paper, and the discussion thereon, should be printed in full and distributed among the members of the institute.

EMPRESS OF INDIA FROM ASIATIC PORTS

Inaugurates the Winter Schedule of the C. P. R. Line—Ship Brings Big Consignments of Silks.

With her big contingent of Royal Artillerymen on board and her saloon passengers and her crowd of Orientals swarming the decks on the forward part of the ship, the R. M. S. Empress of India presented an interesting sight on arrival from the Far East at the ocean docks this morning. The passage was devoid of any special incident, and from Yokohama to port was smooth, fog being only encountered on reaching this coast. On the initial stages of the voyage, however, conditions were not so pleasant. The weather was distressingly warm, the firemen and stokers having to work in atmospheres where the thermometer registered 140 and 150 degrees of heat. In consequence they had to be relieved on their watches more frequently than customary.

The hot wave preceded a typhoon, which included the India in its outer sweep. The officers of the ship heard of little damage done by the typhoon, more than that of the accident to the Riojun Maru, which had been driven ashore in the high wind. She was in Weesung when the Empress called there.

At Hongkong, before starting her present voyage, the India was given an overhauling in the Kowloon dock, the first which she has received since February last. Running on a three-week schedule, the vessels of the line have not had the opportunity for keeping in trim that they will from now on. They are to be operated on a monthly schedule throughout the winter months, and the India on her present trip inaugurates this service. She brings 2,200 tons of cargo and 2,056 packages of silk. Her saloon list is not so large as she has been bringing during the summer months, and in the company there were few notables. Among the passengers were Mr. Macy, of the big tea firm of Macy & Company, New York, and Gen. Gaston Liebert, who has been in service in Japan, and who is now returning to France. The complete list is as follows:

M. R. Alexander, Mrs. J. Ankron, C. H. C. Bickenton, V. M. Bodmer, Wm. Reynolds Brown, H. E. Campbell, Miss K. De Witt Cartwright, Miss L. S. Chamberlain, C. Coolidge, C. E. Fryer, J. Gibson, R. J. Hall, L. P. Harris, R. Hidalgo, Col. A. Howlett, Mrs. Hutton, H. P. Jones, Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Jost, F. S. Kelly, Lieut. C. King, U. S. A., Consul-General Gaston Liebert, Mrs. Gaston Liebert, A. W. Lloyd, W. A. Lomax, Bunkio Matsuki, G. Matsuura, Miss Helen W. Munroe, W. H. Newall, Mrs. W. H. Newall, J. B. Pierce, Mrs. J. B. Pierce, Smyth, Pigott, R. N., C. Pinoli, Miss C. R. Prentice, Mr. Redmayne, Miss Redmayne, Miss M. Reid, Mr., Mrs. and Master Reyes, Capt. Rolland, R. E., A. Ross, Mrs. P. Royds, child and nurse, Capt. J. J. Sexton, Major A. D. Schultze-Moderow, D. G. Schnell, D. E. Simon, E. von Strouch, Capt. R. E. Tilney, C. M. Turner, F. W. Turner, Miss K. Turner, Miss E. C. Turner and Miss G. L. Wherett.

The steerage passengers on board numbered 248, of whom over 60 debarked here.

PRACTICAL MEN.

Experts Who Will Judge Fall Shows Know Their Business.

Great credit is due the department of agriculture at Ottawa for dispatching to this province to judge the agricultural exhibitions this fall such practical and expert farmers as those who have recently arrived. Each has a specialty on which he will lecture, the programme of discourses complete being as follows:

D. C. Anderson, Rugby, Ont.—Soil cultivation; root growing; management of manure; cattle raising; green crops as fertilizers; the bacon hog. Evening subjects—Poultry on the farm; advantages of farm life; the farm as a financial investment.

G. W. Clemons, St. George, Ont.—Selection and breeding of dairy cattle; feeding dairy cattle; lessons from Pan-American model dairy; swine raising.

G. R. Cotterell, Milton, Ont.—Poultry for profit on the ordinary farm; the different breeds of poultry and their characteristics; the preparation of poultry for home and foreign markets; how to build a poultry house and keep the poultry healthy. Evening subject—Poultry production for boys and girls.

John Jackson, Abingdon, Ont.—How to establish and manage a flock of sheep for profit, including the production of lambs at an early age; the advantages of keeping sheep; how to establish and maintain a flock for the production of fine bred animals for breeding purposes; how to feed and prepare sheep for the show ring; rape growing, and the grazing of sheep on rape and other forage crops; encourage boys and girls to remain on the farm.

Major Jas. Sheppard, Queenston, Ont.—The packing and sale of apples; planting and care of orchards; propagating fruits; grafting, budding, etc.; forty years' experience in growing corn; tomatoes for home and market; ensilage and the round silo; the export bacon trade; good roads. Evening subjects—Four good reasons why we till the soil; birds in relation to the fruit grower.

John Gardhouse, Highfield, Ont.—Horse breeding for profit; care and management of horses; how to select and feed beef cattle; care and management of sheep; raising feed for live stock. Evening subjects—How to improve farm conditions; how to interest the young people in the farm.

TWENTY LIVES LOST.

Many Missing, and It is Feared Death Roll May Be Increased.

Portland, Ore., Sept. 15.—Twenty lives have been lost, and it is roughly estimated that property worth $1,500,000 has been destroyed during the past week by forest fires in Oregon and Washington. Many more persons are missing, but it will not be known how or many are dead until reports from remote districts come in. The estimate of the property loss does not include standing timber, but covers sawmills, houses, barns, shops, cord-wood and farm implements.

Thousands of acres of timber have been burned over. The fires have nearly burned out, and this morning the smoke cleared away so that the sun was visible most of the afternoon.

Charred Remains.

Kalama, Wash., Sept. 15.—Reports from the stricken districts of Lewis River continue to grow worse. The charred bodies of 38 people have already been found, and it is believed that there will be more to follow.

THE COMMITTEES PRESENT REPORTS

VOTERS' LEAGUE DISPOSE OF WATER QUESTION

Matter of Foreshore Rights at San Juan Brought Up Before Last Night's Meeting.

At the meeting of the Voters' League held last evening in the city hall the chaos of motions, amendments and amendments to the amendments, ad infinitum, which had arisen in connection with the report of the water committee was removed. The city council will be asked to deal with the matter. Reports of various conferences with the Hon. W. C. Wells were also received. A. Henderson presided, and there were also present Senator Macdonald, A. J. Morley, A. L. Belyea, T. C. Sorby, R. Seabrook, W. Laird, C. E. Redfern, J. C. Richards, J. B Lovell, C. H. Lugrin, Jos. Peirson, T. N. Hibben, J. Humphreys, J. L. Lawton, W. Windle, S. Shore, F. W. Best, A. Toller and J. Quagliotti.

A motion was made by A J. Morley to have a committee of seven appointed to look into the question of the opening up of the Songhees reserve and gather the necessary information concerning it.

Senator Macdonald held that the consideration of such a motion was simply a waste of time. The land belonged to the Indians. The settlement of the question was one between the Dominion and the provincial governments.

A. L. Belyea said that probably Senator Macdonald was not aware that a statement had been made by Mayor Hayward, in which he had said it was settled. There was a report that such had been arrived at, and that it was to the effect that the land south of the railway was to go to the E. & N., that in the centre was to go to the province, and the remainder sold for the benefit of the Indians. This was the worst possible arrangement that could be entered into. If a committee could gather information on the matter it would be useful.

Thos. Sorby said that little could be done in looking into the matter. He would like to see the reserve placed in the hands of the harbor commissioner. He had gone through the papers connected with the matter at Ottawa, and had the information at his disposal.

A. J. Morley thought that the secrecy connected with this matter should be laid bare in some measure.

C. E. Redfern thought that it would be waste time. If the government intended to keep these conditions secret a committee would not be able to bring forth any disclosure.

Jos. Peirson thought that there could not be too much light thrown upon the subject.

Senator Macdonald added that the Dominion government had conducted negotiations with the provincial government some time ago. A satisfactory agreement was not reached in the matter, but the result was made public at the time. In a settlement of the Songhees reserve question the city should understand that it would receive no land. There was now plenty of vacant land to improve which might well occupy the attention of the citizens. If Mr. Dunsmuir acquired a part of the waterfront it would be for making improvements which would be for the advantage of the city.

A communication from Mr. Justice Martin upon the question of the city water supply was read. He pointed out the advisability of using meters throughout the city. The communication was received and laid on the table.

W. Laird called attention to a report that he had received that the Dominion government was granting to a company of men the crown grants for the foreshore at San Juan. This formed the only means of outside communication for a large section of country lying between the Nitinat lakes and the watershed of the San Juan river. It was said that these men had now a wharf, and that there were abuses complained of in connection with this. Different rates were charged for wharfage. This company of men had, in his opinion, control of too much. The three blocks of land for which the grant was asked, included about all the land upon which a wharf could be built, according to the peculiar position of the harbor. He asked that a committee of seven be appointed to look into this matter.

C. E. Redfern rose to a point of order. He held that without notice having been previously given that this motion was out of order.

The chairman upheld Mr. Redfern in this, and asked for reports from committees.

A. L. Belyea reporting for a special committee reported as follows:

Your committee met on Wednesday morning, September 10th, and decided to wait upon the Mayor and request his co-operation in urging upon the people the necessity of immediate action. We met the Mayor at his office at 10.45 a. m., and he promised to move in council for a grant to cover the necessary cost so that the work could be carried out at once, and signified his intention of interviewing Mr. Wells before doing so, to obtain a reiteration of his promise as to share of costs. The committee also waited on Mr. McQuade, president of the board of trade, who promised to bring the matter up at the first meeting of the council to endorse the action of the municipal council. We were later informed by the secretary of the board of trade that he had recently seen Mr. Wells, who had stated to him that the survey would be undertaken by the government as formerly promised. On Saturday last Mr. Richard Hall, M. P. P., saw Mr. Wells on behalf of the committee, and was assured by him that the work would be undertaken by the government and would be begun not later than the 20th inst.

Respectfully submitted,
A. L. BELYEA,
Chairman Arable Land and Special Com.

C. E. Redfern asked if this survey was to be undertaken by the government or whether it was that only a part of the cost would be borne by the government.

A. L. Belyea said there seemed to be some misapprehension on this matter. The government seemed originally to have been willing to provide for the work alone. The committee had the assurance that the work would be taken up, but it was impossible to say how the expenses would be paid.

Thos. Sorby added the following report:

With reference to my previous report in the matter of preliminary survey for a line of railway along the Cowichan valley, I have further to report that I met Mr. Helmcken, our senior member, at the office of the Hon. the Commissioner of Lands and Works, this morning, and we were officially informed by his secretary that the minister is now arranging with Mr. Helmcken to put a survey party in the field to make a preliminary survey for a line of railway along the Cowichan valley to Alberni, and hopes to complete all arrangements and commence active operations within 10 days.

THOS. C. SORBY,
Chairman of Committee.

Sept. 16th, 1902.

A. J. Morley pointed out the difference in the time mentioned in these reports when the work would be commenced. He thought the government had played the board of trade and the Citizens' League against one another. He did not think the government intended to do anything in the matter at the present time.

It was objected by T. Sorby and others that Hon. W. C. Wells having given his word they should regard it as the intention of the government to carry out the survey.

C. H. Lugrin asked whether the survey was to be from Cowichan lake to Alberni or to Barkley Sound. This was important, he thought. At Barkley Sound deep water was reached. At Alberni such was not the case.

Thos. Sorby said he was prepared to make the correction from Alberni to Barkley Sound, and accordingly do so.

The reports were received and filed, to be referred to hereafter.

C. H. Lugrin, reporting verbally for the arable lands committee, said that Hon. W. C. Wells had been interviewed. The government, Mr. Wells said, had already done something along the lines indicated. Valuable lands on the West Coast were already taken up. Near Campbell river most of the land was locked by timber grants. The committee had urged that the question of preparing information for settlers and placing this in the hands of Hon. J. H. Turner for distribution, Mr. Wells had eventually come to look upon the scheme rather favorably, and he believed the government would take some such step. He thought the result of the interview with Mr. Wells had been eminently satisfactory. On motion of Mr. Lugrin the following resolution was carried:

That this league very heartily approves of the proposal that the government shall publish for wide circulation in Great Britain and elsewhere, a pamphlet, with maps, setting forth the advantages of suitable portions of Vancouver Island for immediate settlement, and that a copy of this resolution be furnished to the Hon. the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works.

W. Laird, for the committee upon the question of harbor improvements, reported as follows:

Your committee on harbor improvements have to report:

Arrangements were made for a conference with Colonel Anderson, C. E., engineer for the Department of Marine and Fisheries, to be held on Friday, September 12th. The conference came off as arranged, when the sub-committee representing the city council, voters' league and board of trade, accompanied by Senator Macdonald and Mr. Earle, M. P., waited on Colonel Anderson. The resolutions already read to the league were given Colonel Anderson, and the desire of the citizens for the improvement of the harbor was impressed on Col. Anderson.

Col. Anderson assured the delegation that he would send the resolutions along with his report to the Hon. Minister of Marine and Fisheries, and would report favorably on the matter. He further assured the delegation that the Hon. Minister of Marine and Fisheries would, he believed, make a favorable recommendation to the Minister of Public Works, with whose department the carrying out of any work rested.

The report was received and filed.

A. J. Morley called attention to the fact that the Minister of Mines had some time ago been asked to purchase drills. Was it the wish that the secretary should again call the minister's attention to the matter.

A. L. Belyea thought this was a simple matter. If money had not been voted for this the minister could do nothing. It was thought advisable to do this.

The question of water coming up W. Laird objected to the amendments as being out of order inasmuch as they could not be regarded as amendments and amendments to the amendment.

The matter was discussed, C. E. Redfern introducing the following resolution:

Whereas complaints are continually being made that the water supply in certain parts of the city is insufficient, and although large sums of money have been expended on new mains and pumping stations, the water service is in some parts of the city still unsatisfactory.

And whereas there is an abundance of water in Elk lake, and it is desirable, in the best interests of Victoria, that an ample supply should be furnished to the citizens at a minimum rate.

Therefore be it resolved, That the report be accepted and that, in the opinion of this league, before any alterations or additions, that would involve the expenditure of a large sum of money, are undertaken, it would be advisable to have the whole system thoroughly examined by a competent engineer, and to obtain his opinion as to the best and most feasible plan for putting the whole service in a satisfactory condition.

A. J. Morley proposed that a committee should be appointed to embody all these ideas in a comprehensive resolution. He moved that Messrs. Redfern, Belyea and Laird should form the committee. This was adopted, and the committee at once met and brought in a resolution very much in the line of C. E. Redfern's as above given, it being found by the committee that the motions all had much in common.

The report of the water committee was adopted, and it was decided to forward a copy of the report and of the accompanying resolution to the city council.

The meeting then adjourned.

WHOLESALE MARKET.

The following quotations are Victoria wholesale prices paid for farm produce this week:

Potatoes (new), per ton	$ 15.00
Carrots, per 100 lbs.	75
Parsnips, per 100 lbs.	1.00
Cabbage, per 100 lbs.	1.50
Butter (creamery), per lb.	25
Butter (dairy), per lb.	22½
Eggs (ranch), per doz.	35
Chickens, per doz.	3.50@ 6.00
Hay, per ton	10.00
Oats, per ton	20.00
Barley, per ton	25.00
Wheat, per ton	27.00
Beef, per lb.	8@ 9
Mutton, per lb.	9@ 10
Pork, per lb.	9
Veal, per lb.	10@ 11

British Columbia Provincial Exhibition

Capital City, Victoria

OCTOBER, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11.

OPEN TO THE WORLD

The only Fair west of the mountains visited by Their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales.

Largest Cash Prize List Ever Offered in the Province

Judges furnished by the Dominion Department of Agriculture.
Live Stock, Agricultural, Horticultural, Mineral, Industrial and Machinery Exhibits.

Horse Races and Other Sports.

Aquarium of Live Fish,

The only one ever opened in British Columbia.

Exhibits Delivered in Unbroken Cars in Victoria.

Horses and Stock for Exhibition purposes can be bonded in free.
Entries for Exhibits close September 29th; for Horse Races October 9th.
For Prize Lists and information, apply,

BEAUMONT BOGGS, General Secretary,
VICTORIA, B. C.

A PRETTY WEDDING IN WESTERN SUBURB

Interesting Event in Victoria West Last Night—Nuptials of Popular Young Couple.

At St. Paul's church, Victoria West, last evening, Rev. D. MacRae, the pastor, celebrated the marriage of Mr. J. C. Dodd to Miss Almira Cessford, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Cessford, of Edward street, Victoria West. Both the contracting parties are widely and favorably known, especially in the western suburb, and the church was consequently packed, not only with guests, but with interested spectators.

The sacred edifice had been appropriately decorated with evrygreens, crysanthemums, dahlias and swet peas, while the choir was present to assist in the musical portion of the service, Miss McKenzie presiding at the organ and playing the wedding march.

The bride, who looked charming in a dainty gown of white organdie over moire, with chiffon trimming, wore the bridal veil and orange blossoms, and carried a beautiful bouquet of carnations and roses, the gift of the groom. Her bridesmaid, Miss Georgina Cavin, was attired in white muslin over pink, and a pink chiffon hat. Miss Effie Collister, the bride's niece, made a pretty little maid of honor. She wore white muslin trimmed with blue and a picture hat, and carried a basket of sweet peas and carnations. The groom was supported by his brother, Mr. Will Dodd. The bride was given away by her father.

After the ceremony the bridal party left the church amid a shower of rice, and drove to the residence of the bride's brother-in-law, Mr. J. R. Collister, on the Arm. The spacious grounds were illuminated with rows of Chinese lanterns, while the interior of the home was decorated prettily with ivy, crysanthemums, sweet peas, carnations, roses, etc. The bride and groom received the congratulations of friends in an alcove of the parlor, under a fleral wedding bell.

A delightful luncheon was served, at the conclusion of which Rev. Mr. MacRae offered as a toast the health of the newly wedded couple in a felicitous little speech, which was acknowledged by the groom.

The bride and groom will take up their residence at 106 John street, where, after a fortnight, they will be at home to their friends.

The presents received by Mr. and Mrs. Dodd were remarkably handsome. The groom's gift to the bride was a star of pearls, and to the bridesmaids pearl crescents. The bride's wedding ring was made of gold from her husband's claim in Klondike.

Among the other gifts were the following: Oak sideboard, Mr. W. Dodd; oak table, Mr. M. Dodd; oak chairs, Mr. John Cessford; rattan rocker, Mr. T. Cessford; easy chair, employees, Dixi H. Ross & Co.; rattan rocker, Mr. B. Dodd; dinner and tea set, employees, Weiler Bros.; choque and cutlery, Mr. Geo. Cessford; fancy settee, Mr. and Mrs. Kirk and Mrs. Fick; cheque, Mr. J. R. Collister; silver spoons, Mrs. J. R. Collister; case silver mounted carvers, Capt. Scarf; steel engravings, Mrs. Nott; case ivory handle carvers, Mr. and Mrs. Rolland; vases, Mrs. Worthington; hand painted plaque, Mrs. H. C. Robinson; flower vase, Miss McLennan; lemonade set, Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Muir; glass vase, Miss Nellie Cavin; five o'clock tea service, Mrs. M. E. Kenworthy; silver cream and sugar set, Mrs. D. H. Ross, Mrs. H. G. Wilson and Mr. H. G. Ross; fancy vase, Miss Mary Muir; souvenir spoons, Capt. and Mrs. Buckholz; fancy vase, Miss Florence Cavin; case of silver coffee spoons, Mr. and Mrs. J. Nelson; silver cake basket, Mr. and Mrs. R. Dodd; Bible, Rev. D. and Mrs. MacRae; silver cake basket, Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Oldershaw; oak framed steel engraving, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Smith; quilt, Mrs. McLennan; silver pepper and salt castor, Miss Maud Lee; cutlery, Miss Effie Collister; flower vase, Miss G. Cavin; glass sugar and cream set, Capt. and Mrs. J. Cavin; berry dish, Mr. and Mrs. T. W. Carter; silver sugar and cream set, Miss Edwards and Mrs. Patterson; silver egg set, Mr. and Mrs. J. Dodd; silver butter knife, Mr. S. Shore; carved butter dish and knife, Miss May Rowland; silver butter dish, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Collister.

THINKS NO TROUBLE TO FLOAT STEAMER

Capt. Cutler Does Not Apprehend Much Difficulty in Way of Wrecking Party.

"The Cottage City is looking all right. I don't think there will be any trouble in getting here off." So Capt. Cutler, of the tug Pilot, which arrived this morning from Juneau, told a Times reporter. The tug passed the stranded steamer on the 12th, and the presence of various appliances by the side of the vessel led Capt. Cutler to believe that a wrecking party from Juneau was at work.

The Pilot on her upward voyage was on the scene of the disaster eight or nine hours after the steamer struck. The night was stormy, one of the most unpleasant conceivable, and Capt. Cutler's statement in this regard bears out that of the officers and passengers of the steamer.

On the morning of the 8th, as the Pilot neared the fatal rocks of Etolin Island, the captain observed the Cottage City securely stranded. He at once sent a boat aboard and offered every assistance in his power. Captain Wallace expressed his gratitude, but said the Spokane had taken the passengers off shortly before. The tug then proceeded on her way. Capt. Cutler expressed the opinion that the steamer would be moved off without much difficulty. She was in a favorable position, and he expected it wouldn't be long before she was back in these waters again.

The Pilot brought down the ship Richard III. with a cargo of concentrates from the Treadwell mines for Tacoma. She made an excellent trip both ways. She left Comox on the 5th alone and reached there with her charge yesterday, taking in all nine days for the round trip from Comox and ten days to Victoria.

NEW FRUIT INSPECTOR.

Ottawa, Sept. 16.—Maxwell Smith, of Vancouver, has been appointed fruit inspector under the Fruit Market Act for the district of British Columbia. Fruit inspectors are still detecting packages of apples which do not conform to the Fruit Markets Act, and the department of agriculture has decided to appoint assistant inspectors in order that all fruit shipped out of Montreal may be properly looked after.

E. C. Bennett, a telegraph operator of Winnipeg, is spending his vacation in this city, a guest at the Victoria hotel. He will stay here some days taking in all points of interest, including Esquimalt.

PILES CURED IN 3 TO 6 NIGHTS.—One application gives relief. Dr. Agnew's Ointment is a boon for Itching Piles, or Blind, Bleeding Piles. It relieves quickly and permanently. In skin eruptions it stands without a rival. Thousands of testimonials if you want evidence. 35 cents. Sold by Jackson & Co. and Hall & Co.—23.