About Civic Improvements

Mayor Hayward Mentions Public Undertakings to Receive Attention.

Proceedings at the First Session of the Council of 1901.

The new council of 1901, at its first sitting last Monday night, established a record for disposing of business with quick despatch. Not a minute was lost in useless debate, with the result that when the hands of the clock pointed to 9:30 His Worship Mayor Hayward was able to announce that the regular business was exhausted. With the exception of the fact that the Mayor took occasion to mention in a brief inaugular address, some of the more important undertakings which the aldermen would be called upon to deal with during the year, and a recommendation from the water commissioner that new water mains be laid on Government street, the session proved an unimportant one. There was a full board present.

In the absence of Clerk Dowler, his duties were performed by Assistant City Clerk Ernest Bradley. The minutes of the last session having been adopted as read, the Mayor, before proceeding to regular business, said:

"Gentlemen: I am extremely pleased (on joint account) at the privilege of meeting you again after the election dangers without the loss of a single man. This, I am certain, we all regard as an especial mark of commendation by the electors, and one that we shall not soon forget; and that it will not fail to stimulate us to renewed effort in the city's interests, and an endeavor to deserve this unique testimonial of confidence and esteem.

"It is not my intention at this time to outline a programme for the year, but as the experience of the past enables us to at once assume active civic duties, there are a few matters which may, perhaps, be profitably pressed upon your attention. First, there is the consolidation and revision of our by-laws, which, although the late council spent much time upon them, found themselves unable to complete. I feel assured that we shall at once take up and carry through this laborious, though most necessary and useful, work.

"Then the enforcement of more stringent regulations and safeguards for the protection of the public health require our very serious attention. Although our medical health officer's report contains the satisfactory statement that the city's death rate during 1900 was only a small fraction over 10 per 1,000, there is warning in the fact that there are more cases of zymotic diseases than there should be. Every effort should be made to maintain our high reputation as a health resort, and to this end the immediate and rigorous enforcement of the by-laws regulating the sale of impure milk and unwholesome food is imperatively demanded.

"The full utilization of the advantages of our excellent, though incomplete, sewerage system should also receive our prompt attention, and the ample, compulsory measures at our command put in force, so that all who have been afforded the opportunity should be compelled to connect with the sewer. The scheme for providing additional funds for sewerage extension, and which is now under your consideration, will, I am sure, receive the consideration its importance demands. In this connection the filling up of the mud flats, the retaining wall and construction of a permanent roadway on the site of the present James Bay bridge, will commend itself as a necessary sanitary precaution, besides being a most useful and ornamental proposal. I am sure that as soon as the preliminaries are arranged, your hearty support will be accorded towards at once placing this scheme in shape for the approval of the ratepayers.

"The late council took the initiatory step for paving Government street with wood blocks, on the local improvement plan, and which it is believed will receive the approval of those immediately interested. It is hoped that the ratepayers will not oppose the paving of parts of Johnson and Douglas streets; but in other localities, where opposition to the paving may be encountered, it may be found expedient for the present to construct permanent sidewalks only. In any event, it should be arranged, if possible, to largely extend the area covered by permanent sidewalks.

"The construction of a substantial steel bridge to provide for the heavy traffic on the highway to Esquimalt and surrounding districts, should be proceeded with as soon as the suggested joint use of it by the tramway company and provincial authorities can be satisfactorily arranged. The immediate necessity for this work cannot easily be overestimated, and I sincerely trust that no difficulties will arise to prevent its completion during the year. The advantages to this city and province by the presence of the Pacific squadron and army reserve at Esquimalt makes it incumbent upon us to make the stay of the officers and men as long and as pleasant as possible, and I am sure the ratepayers would not object to a reasonable expenditure in this direction with this end in view.

"The hearty endorsement given by the electors to a suggestion made a couple of weeks ago, 'that it would be wise to return all the aldermen,' undoubtedly implies not only the compliment already referred to, but also that in their opinion continuity in office is, under certain conditions, very desirable. It almost necessarily follows that as little change as possible should be made in the personnel of our committees. I, therefore, propose that the regular standing committees of last year, with all their experience and adaptability for business, should remain as they were.

"Gentlemen, I heartily rely on your valued assistance and co-operation in all matters during the year. It will be my pleasure and duty to keep closely in touch with you, and I feel assured that together, we shall so manage the affairs of the city, that the ratepayers will find no cause to regret having entrusted the important business and events of the opening year of the 20th century to our keeping."

Ald. Brydon did not think that a satisfactory arrangement had been made by the Mayor in re-appointing the old committees without change. He represented a very large constituency as senior member, and thought, therefore, that he, as such representative, should be given a place on more committees.

Ald. Kinsman, though not now senior member for North ward, had no wish to occupy a place on any committee, if Ald. Brydon had an ambition to serve in that capacity.

The Mayor suggested that perhaps Ald. Brydon would take Ald. Kinsman's place as chairman of the electric light committee. This was finally agreed to, so the committees, with the change mentioned, stand as last year, as follows: Cemetery—Williams, Kinsman, Hall. Electric light—Brydon, Cameron, Williams. Finance—Cameron, Williams, Beckwith. Fire wardens—Stewart, Cameron, Kinsman. Harbor improvements—Kinsman, Yates Cooley. Home for Aged and Infirm—Beckwith, Cooley, Stewart. Legislation—Yates, Beckwith, Cameron. Park—Hall, Brydon, Yates. Streets, bridges and Sewers—The mayor and aldermen. On pending litigation—Cooley, Stewart, Brydon. On railways—Williams, Kinsman, Hall. On acquisition of Indian reserve—Cameron, Yates, Beckwith.

A letter from Thomas Hooper, asking that a permanent sidewalk be laid in front of the Todd building, on the corner of Douglas and Pandora streets, was referred to the city engineer for report.

William Humphrey wrote, asking if there was any objection to certain fences being erected in the vicinity of the new Clover Point rifle range. Referred to the city engineer for report.

Skene Lowe complained of the nuisance of steam wood-cutters using the streets. If they were entitled to special privileges something should be done to keep them off the streets. He also thought that corporation workmen damaged the streets unnecessarily. Perhaps these grievances existed because of the fact that no responsible officer had been instructed to watch the streets and report on their condition.

Ald. Beckwith thought there was a great deal in what Mr. Lowe said, and moved the adoption of some system which would abate the nuisances complained of. Those who sawed wood on the streets should be compelled to clean up the debris. The heads of the departments should be held responsible for the condition of the streets, and the police should notify citizens that they must live up to the by-laws.

Ald. Yates favored referring the letter to the streets committee for report. The street superintendent's attention should be drawn to the matter. This was done.

The city clerk reported having referred a number of letters complaining of the necessity of minor street improvements to the city engineer for report.

Water Commissioner James L. Raymur recommended that a 12-inch pipe be laid on Government street from the end of the present pipe between Fisguard and Cormorant streets to James Bay bridge. The estimated cost is $9,500. He also recommended that a four-inch pipe be laid on Fourth street.

Ald. Stewart moved that the communication be received and that tenders be called for. This was seconded by Ald. Beckwith.

Ald. Williams had been informed that the Albion Iron Works were now in a position to make the pipe, and if that was so, they should, if possible, be given the contract.

Ald. Brydon wanted to know if it were necessary to lay a 12-inch pipe on Government street. Ten-inch pipe might be equal to all the demands. He was so informed. He moved in amendment that it lay on the table and inquiries be made in the matter, as a saving of $1,000 could be made in using the smaller pipe. The Albion Iron Works were, he understood, considering the manufacturing of water pipes.

The mayor suggested referring it to the finance committee for report. This was done.

The auditor forwarded a statement of the cost of maintenance of the Home for the Aged and Infirm for the year 1900—the cost per day per man being 49.86 cents, and for provisions alone 29.95 cents.

Ald. Cameron thought it satisfactory to have that information before them. The cost, no doubt, could be reduced if a proper home for the old men were erected.

Chief Deasy wrote as follows:

Gentlemen:—I have the honor to enclose a petition submitted to me by the permanent firemen in the department.

In submitting the same I would respectfully request that the board take into consideration the question of rearranging the fire department in order to place the officers and men on a more equal footing with regard to hours and pay.

The present system was inaugurated in 1886, and a re-arrangement would be in the interests of the city.

THOMAS DEASY, Chief.

To His Worship the Mayor and Board of Aldermen:—

Gentlemen:—We, the undersigned, permanent firemen in the Victoria Fire Department, respectfully place the following before your honorable body for consideration when the appropriation of salaries is under consideration.

Many years ago, when the city was small and the work of the firemen less, the wages of the permanent firemen were reduced in a general reduction of salaries.

The engineers then received eighty dollars per month, and the drivers seventy.

2. In all part-paid and paid, call departments, the permanent men receive high salaries, on account of the extra duties they have to perform, that do not fall on engineers and drivers in a full paid department.

3. We have longer hours than other employees of the city, working night and day, Sundays and Mondays alike. We are compelled to pay high rents in order to live near the fire halls, and have to buy our clothing and uniforms.

4. The occupation of a fireman is dangerous to life and health and the remuneration is gauged accordingly in every other fire department on the Coast.

5. The majority of permanent men are employed in the fire halls 534 hours each month, exclusive of time for meals and leave, and at the rate of wages paid in this city, only receive but one dollar for nine hours' work.

We are not at manual labor all of the time, but we are kept in the halls, and our services are at call at any hour, night or day. Other city departments allow the men to have their nights and Sundays to spend with their families. We are always on duty, and when we secure leave from the chief, are subject to attend fires.

We therefore respectfully petition for an increase of wages, and trust that the above mentioned facts will receive your earnest attention when a re-arrangement of salaries is before you.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

The petition is signed by D. McDougall, Frank LeRoy, Geo. Lund, J. Gardner, P. K. Bradley, E. W. Gray, J. J. Swain, R. C. Wood, J. A. Daly, R. A. Murraut, G. Mitalstate, Colin M. Blaine, Frank J. Shepherd, Geo. E. Moss, T. H. Hodges, H. Norman and Joseph Wachter.

Ald. Yates moved that the matter be laid over until the estimates were considered. Carried.

Ald. Williams moved that a special committee be appointed to investigate the question of how best to arrange that the mayor and aldermen should serve for a longer term of office than one year, was next taken up.

Ald. Williams explained that he made the motion so that steps might be taken to get the necessary power from the legislature, so that a change so desirable might be brought about.

Ald. Yates thought it a purely legislative matter, and favored referring the matter to the legislative committee.

Ald. Cameron was in favor of the object of the motion and approved of Ald. Yates' suggestion, which was finally adopted, Ald. Williams assenting.

Applications for the position of lamp trimmer were then taken up. There were 54. As some of the aldermen had not time to read them, it was considered advisable to defer making the appointment to a later date.

Ald. Beckwith, before adjournment, suggested that the streets committee meet twice a month at the close of the regular council meetings. This would facilitate business, he thought.

Ald. Hall desired to place on record his approval of the magnificent special Vancouver Island edition which had just been issued by the Colonist. It was by far the best thing of the sort which had been published in the province. This statement was applauded by the rest of the aldermen.

The board then adjourned.

Suit For a Large Sum

British American Corporation Sued For Over Half a Million.

Proceeding in Chambers—Full Court List For To-day.

There is a great gathering of lawyers, mine owners and financiers in the city for the trial of the long-pending case of Williams et. al vs. the British America Corporation, which opens before Mr. Justice Drake in the Supreme Court this morning. The first papers in the case were issued over a year ago, the delays having been caused by preliminary contests on legal points and two necessary adjournments; and even the present trial is not at all likely to finally settle the matter, as a very large sum of money is involved, and whichever side loses will undoubtedly carry the case to the highest court. The case arises out of the sale of the Le Roi mine at Rossland to the B. A. C., and the suit is brought by L. F. Williams, representing the majority pool in the old Le Roi company, to recover $602,620.70 from the British America Corporation. The action involves the prolonged fight that resulted when the majority interests in the Le Roi voted to sell the mine on a basis of about $6 a share, or $3,000,000 for the entire property. The majority of the stockholders, headed by Col. I. N. Peyton, Valentine Peyton, L. F. Williams and W. A. Henley, parted with their holdings to the amount of 262,009 shares; but Senator George Turner, Col. W. W. D. Turner and the minority stockholders refused to sell, and began several actions in the courts to set aside the alleged sale of the mine to the English company.

For several weeks Spokane was the scene of an extraordinary battle of craft and diplomacy, during which the books of the company were taken across the line into British Columbia on a special train, on the rear platform of which stood an angry deputy sheriff with a restraining order from the court. The paper was not served, the car door being locked.

In this contest the minority interests finally won out, and the British America Corporation paid about $8 a share for its stock. This made trouble between the company and the majority stockholders, who objected to selling their stock for $2.30 a share less than the Turner interests had received. To secure redress they assigned their claims to L. F. Williams, who instituted an action against the B. A. C. for the additional $2.30 a share for the entire holdings of the majority pool. The suit was filed about a year ago.

Among those here for the trial are Mr. Edwin Durrant, financial manager of the B. A. C.; Hon. T. Mayne Daly, counsel for the B. A. C.; Col. I. N. Peyton, of the Exchange National bank, one of the wealthiest men in Spokane; Valentine Peyton, of the Spokane Drug Company; D. W. Henley, capitalist and member of the law firm of Henley, Kellam & Lindsley; L. F. Williams, the plaintiff in the action; W. B. Heyburn, of the law firm of Heyburn, Heyburn & Doherty; and E. D. Sanders and W. M. Ridpath, both owners of large property interests in Spokane.

"A large sum is involved in this suit, and it will probably be several years before a final decision is reached," said Col. Peyton. "If we are beaten, we shall certainly appeal, and we will not abandon our efforts to get justice until the highest court is reached. If, on the other hand, we are victorious in this trial, we expect to be called upon to combat an appeal."

Col. Peyton is accompanied by Mrs. Peyton. At the conclusion of the trial of the case they will go to their winter home at Santa Barbara, Cal.

In chambers yesterday, in the case of Drake vs. Smith, a foreclosure action, an application for an order absolute was made by H. B. W. Aikman. The application stood over. In the case of Munro vs. Endean, a similar application, the order was made. Before Mr. Justice Martin, an application was made under the Water Clauses Act for directions as to the hearing of an appeal for a record of 400 inches of water allowed by the land commissioner of Nelson to the British Columbia Southern Railway Company, subject to the right of the city of Rossland. The War Eagle and Centre Star companies are appealing; and T. Mayne Daly, for the Le Roi company, applied to be allowed an appeal as an interested party. The application was partially heard and adjourned until this morning.

The following cases were dealt with yesterday in the full court:

Robertson vs. Bossuyt—Argument concluded; judgment reserved.

Jordan vs. McMillan (C. P. R. Co., garnishees)—Appeal dismissed with costs.

Murphy vs. Star Mining Co.—Judgment reserved.

War Eagle Mining Co. vs. J. Cooper Manufacturing Co.—Partially argued.

The peremptory list for to-day is as follows: War Eagle Mining Co. vs. James Cooper Manufacturing Co.; Chisholm vs. Le Roi Mining Co.; Stevenson vs. Parks; Hanley vs. O'Brien; Williams vs. B. A. C.; Shallcross & Macaulay vs. Alaska Steamship Co.

No one knows better than those who have used Carter' Little Liver Pills what relief they have given when taken for dyspepsia, dizziness, pain in the side, constipation, and disordered stomach.

ONLY THREE LEFT.

Survivors of the Crew of the Fox Nearly All Dead.

Of the crew of hardy sailors who nearly half a century ago, under Capt. (now admiral) Sir F. Leopold McClintock, searched for and unravelled the fate of the Franklin Arctic expedition, there were, two weeks ago, four survivors. They have now been reduced to three by the death of Mr. Robert Hampton, whose funeral took place in Walthamstow cemetery. No fewer than eighteen expeditions were despatched to the relief of Sir John and his companions, but it was left to the one which sailed in 1857 in the Fox to find, two years afterwards the cairn erected by the last survivors of the ill-fated party, containing documents which set all doubts at rest. Hampton was one of the crew of that vessel. The three still remaining are Admiral Sir F. Leopold McClintock, Sir Allen Young, and Dr. Walker. The gallant sailor who has just passed away was seventy-seven years of age, and took part in the Battle of Acre, in 1840.

MARKET REPORT.

Retail Prices of Produce and Provisions to Date.

Beef is very scarce just now, owing to a rock slide near Hope, on the C. P. R. Owing to the mild weather, fresh eggs are very plentiful at present. Oysters are a little cheaper, and so are apples. The retail quotations follow:

Flour—	
Ogilvie's Hungarian, per bbl.$	5.75
Lake of the Woods, per bbl..	5.75
Snow Flake, per bbl	4.60
Calgary, Hungarian	5.20
Premier, per bbl	5.75
XXX Enderby, per bbl	5.00
Grain—	
Wheat, per ton	28.00@30.00
Corn (whole), per ton	26.00@28.00
Corn (cracked), per ton	28.00@32.00
Oats, per ton	28.00@30.00
Oatmeal, per 10 lbs	.40@ 50
Rolled oats (B. & K.)	04
Rolled oats (B. & K.) per sack	30
Feed—	
Hay (baled), per ton	14.00@16.00
Straw, per bale	55@ 65
Middlings, per ton	22.00@24.00
Bran, per ton	20.00@22.00
Ground Feed, per ton	26.00@30.00
Vegetable—	
Potatoes, sweet, per lb	5
Potatoes, per 100 lbs	1.25
Do. (Ashcrofts), per 100 lbs	1.25
Cucumbers, each	15@ 20
Cabbage, per lb	4
Cabbage, per lb	3
Cauliflower, per head	15
Onions, per lb	3@ 5
Carrots, per lb	2
Lettuce, per head	5
Turnips, per lb	2
Fish—	
Salmon (smoked), per lb	20
Salmon (spring), per lb	10@ 12½
Shrimps, per lb	40
Cod, per lb	8@ 10
Halibut, per lb	10
Smoked Halibut, per lb	15
Rock Cod, per lb.	12@ 8
Tom Cod per lb	6@ 8
Herring	5
Smelts, per lb	10
Flounders	8
Bloaters, per lb	10
Kippers, per lb	12½
Oysters, Olympia, per pint	40@ 50
Farm Produce—	
Fresh Island Eggs	40
Eggs (Manitoba), per doz	30
Butter (Delta Creamery)	35
Best Dairy	25@ 30
Butter (Cowichan Creamery).	25
Cheese (Canadian	18@ 20
Lard, per lb	15
Meats—	
Hams (Canadian), per lb	17@ 18
Hams (American, per lb	20
Bacon (Canadian), per lb	16@ 18
Bacon (American) per lb	20@ 25
Bacon (rolled), per lb.	12@ 16
Bacon (long clear), per lb	14
Shoulders, per lb	14
Beef, per lb	8@ 15
Mutton, per lb	10½@ 18
Veal, per lb	12@ 18
Pork, per lb	10@ 15
Fruit—	
Bananas, per doz	35@ 40
Cocoanuts, each	10@ 15
Lemons (California), per doz.	25@ 30
Lemons (small)	4@ 5
Apples, per lb	4@ 5
Jap. Oranges, per box	50
Naval Oranges, per doz	30@ 40
Poultry—	
Dressed fowl, per pair	1.25@ 1.50
Ducks, per pair	1.50
Dressed aurkeys, lsl'd, per lb	20@ 30
Eastern turkeys, per lb	16@ 20
Goose, per lb.	20
Game—	
Duck, Mallard, per pair	65@ 75
Wigeon, per pair	50
Teal, per pair	35

Doctor—And you say you can't pay me?

Patient—That's right, doctor; you see I spent all my money to buy that cook book for my wife.

"That's not right."

"Well, doctor, you shouldn't complain; if I hadn't bought he book I wouldn't have needed your services."—Yonkers Statesman.

Harsh purgative remedies are fast giving way to the gentle action and mild effects of Carter's Little Liver Pills. If you try them they will certainly please you.

THE RAILWAY COMPLETED

Ore From the Lenora Mine Now Sent Out in Cars.

The railway has been completed between the Lenora mine, Mount Sicker, and the Esquimalt & Nanaimo railway, Mount Sicker siding, near Westholme. It is to be afterwards extended to Osborne Bay. The grading on the extension to Osborne Bay is completed, with the exception of about 300 yards. When finally completed the railway will be 11½ miles in length. The road is built around the northern and western side of Mount Sicker, rising to a height of 1,400 feet in 6¼ miles. The view from the railway on the northern side of Mount Sicker is very grand, looking down as it does into Chemainus canyon, 1,400 feet below; and on the opposite side of the river is situated Mount Brenton, which rises to a height of about 3,500 feet. On a clear day, Point Grey, on the east side of the Gulf of Georgia, and in sight of Vancouver, can be plainly seen, as also the numerous islands between Vancouver Island and the Mainland; and in addition the peaks of the Cascade range show up against the eastern sky.

The railway is run by a geared locomotive, manufactured in Lima, Ohio. It climbs the grades with ease, although some of them are 9 per cent. The first carload of ore came down yesterday over the new road, and in a week's time the output will be about 100 tons a day.

It is expected that shipments of about 3,000 tons a month will be made. At the mine are waiting about 2,500 tons of sorted ore; there are about 3,000 tons on the dump, and nearly two years' supply of ore in sight in the mine.

A school will be established next month at Mount Sicker townsite; and with the railway running to the mine, an impetus will be given to the settlement of the townsite.

The Prescription Department

Of our store keeps pace with advanced medical science. We pride ourselves upon our accuracy, cleanliness, promptitude and skill. Our line of toilet articles is well assorted. Try us.

Cyrus H. Bowes,

Chemist, 98 Government Street, Near Yates Street. Telephone 425.

Dumped Them Ashore Here

U. S. S. Cutter Grant Arrests Japanese On Waldron Island.

And Without Notifying Customs Lands Them at James Bay.

Twenty-two Japanese, one being a woman, were put ashore at the landing of Jones' boathouse Monday morning from the United States revenue cutter Grant, Capt. Tozier, which arrived from New Whatcom, where two other Japanese, owners of a Steveston sloop, who are accused of taking the others from the Fraser to Waldron island in violation of the United States contract labor laws, are imprisoned. The sloop was seized. The Japanese were captured by the cutter at a so-called logging camp on Waldron island, and having been taken there from a British Colnmbia port, were brought back to the country from whence they were taken. United States Immigration Officer Allen, who has been making the cruise on the Grant for the purpose of investigating this alleged smuggling of Japanese from British Columbia into the land of Uncle Sam, came ashore with the Japs, and they were placed in a Japanese establishment here, where they are held. Two other Japanese, who were also taken with those landed, were placed on board the cutter to be taken to New Whatcom as witnesses against two of their countrymen, the two padrones, who are imprisoned there, on the charge of having violated the immigration laws by taking the Japs into United States territory.

The Grant has been making a cruise among the United States islands of the Gulf to investigate the alleged smuggling of Japanese, and as a result a sloop was found anchored at Roche Harbor, which sailed from Steveston, and was owned by two Japanese there, who, according to information received by the cutter's officers, had brought 26 Japs, including the one woman, from the Fraser river town, to Waldron island, one of the United States islands of the Gulf, where they had established a logging camp and were cutting wood for the Roche Harbor Lime Company. Acting on this information, Capt. Tozier seized the British sloop, and took the two Japanese prisoners. When seized, the sloop was laden with supplies for the colony of Japs left on Waldron island, and taking the two prisoners and the sloop along, the cutter proceeded to the island, and arrested 23 Japanese there on Wednesday last, and two days' later they secured another one. The Grant took the prisoners to Whatcom, where they were landed, and given in charge for violation of the United States contract labor laws. The seized sloop was left there, and then the cutter steamed across to Victoria with the remaining Japanese, who were all landed here, save the two who were held to give evidence against the two prisoners who are accused of having taken them from Steveston across to the island.

It is alleged that this smuggling of Japanese is going on continually. Small vessels, skiffs, sloops, and such craft, are, it is said, going from the Fraser and elsewhere to Waldron, Lopez, Whidby and other islands of the Gulf in United States territory, with full cargoes of Japanese. For weeks past, it is alleged, Columbia river boats have been seen leaving this vicinity after nightfall, well laden with Japanese, and returning with few people aboard.

In connection with this underground railway for moving the Orientals into the United States, a good story is told, but whether it has a foundation in fact cannot be learned. According to the story, about a week ago a young man went to a number of local Chinamen and arranged to take them on one of the Gulf islands, from whence they could easily make their way to the mainland without detection. Nine Chinamen were to be taken, and for the trip the young man was to receive $25 a head, which was to be paid in Chinatown, on the presentation of a receipt from the boss man of the nine, to show that they had been landed.

As the story has it, the young man left soon after nightfall with his freight of Celestials, and next morning called at the appointed place in Chinatown and collected his money on the presentation of the paper with the Chinese characters on it, acknowledging that the nine had been landed in United States territory. The money being paid, the young man vanished and was seen by the Chinese no more, and the next afternoon nine weary and bedraggled Chinese walked into Chinatown, and talked like a Simian parliament when they found that the $225 had been paid. The young man, it seems, had landed them at Sooke, taking advantage of a fog, and having told them that they were in United States territory, they gave him a receipt for their landing. Then when the sloop pushed out to sea again they went up to explore. In time they came upon a Chinese place and soon discovered how they had been outwitted. Then they walked back.

Collector of Customs A. R. Milne will investigate the landing of the Japanese from the United States revenue cutter Grant, of which, he says, no report was made to him, although officers of the cutter visited the custom house. The revenue cutters are allowed all privileges of men-of-war and are not obliged to report at the custom house, like merchant vessels, but the commanding officers usually send or leave their cards as a matter of courtesy. Although they are immune from the customs regulations to that extent, it does not follow, however, that the cutters may land passengers other than the personal friends of the officers travelling as guests, and certainly not Japanese without inspection. No Orientals are allowed to come ashore from any vessel without inspection, and they certainly would not have been allowed to come ashore from the Grant had the officers of the cutter notified the customs authorities of their landing. This, however, they did not do, and Collector Milne will investigate the landing of the Japanese to-day.

Immigration Officer W. H. Ellis did not interfere with the landing of the Japanese, for, he says, it is contended that they are Japanese who went from British Columbia, being returned to the province, and it is the customs authorities that should deal with the matter rather than he.

OFFICIALS PROMOTED.

Local Hudson's Bay Managers Received Well-Merited Recognition.

The announcement was made Tuesday that Mr. R. H. Hall, who has been in charge at Victoria for some years of the inland business of the Hudson's Bay Company in British Columbia, is about to leave for Winnipeg, where he will be attached to the general staff of the headquarters of the company in Canada.

Mr. James Thomson, who is at present acting as manager of the Victoria store, will now also conduct the local affairs in connection with the company's inland posts in British Columbia.

General regret will be felt at the fact that Mr. Hall is leaving Victoria, as he is a most popular official, and has a host of friends here, but congratulations will be extended both to him and Mr. Thomson, upon their promotion to more important posts.

THE CENSUS.

Reason Why This Year's Count Will Prove Better Than That of Ten Years Ago.

Census taking commences on April 1, and in two or three weeks from that date an exact count of the people will have been concluded. That is to say, we shall know the totals. It is very certain that this census will show a much larger increase in the population than did that of 1891. The figures for 1891 were disappointing, not, however, because the population had not increased, but because the new principle governing the taking of the census produced of necessity an unfavorable return. In the enumerations of 1871 and 1881 a wide latitude was given the census takers. They could include in their figures people who had been out of the country for years, and they did so. When the census for 1891 was ordered this system was stopped. Only actual residents were to be counted, together with such members of the family as were absent temporarily, and were booked to return. The change gave the actual figures for 1891, and when these were compared with the swollen figures for 1881, it looked as if our population had not grown materially. This time actual figures will be open for comparison with actual figures, and it will appear that we have added more to our population than we did in the preceding decade, although such may not really be the case.

RECOMMEND INCREASE.

Police Commissioners Have Decided on an Increase in the Salaries of the Police.

At a meeting of the police commissioners held early in the year, a petition was presented by the Chief of Police from the members of the force, asking that their salaries be increased. The commissioners have decided to grant this request, and have prepared a report to the council, stating that they have decided upon the following increases: Chief of police, from $125 to $150; sergeants, from $80 to $90; detectives, from $70 to $80; constables, from $62.50 to $67.50, and the clerk of the police court, from $60 to $70. The recommendations of the Chief of Police that a patrol wagon be purchased for the department, and that other improvements be made, is left for the council to decide.

NOTICE.—The British Columbia Southern Railway Company will apply to the Parliament of Canada at its next session for an Act extending the time within which it may construct its railways, and authorizing it to construct such branches from any of its lines not exceeding in any one case thirty miles in length, as are from time to time authorized by the Governor-in-Council, and for other purposes.

H. CAMPBELL OSWALD.
Secretary.

NOTICE.—The Columbia & Western Railway Company will apply to the Parliament of Canada at its next session for an Act assimilating its bonding powers in respect of its railway and branch lines west of Midway to the powers already given in respect of its lines constructed east of that point, extending the time within which it may complete its railways, and authorizing it to construct such branches from any of its lines not exceeding in any one case thirty miles in length as are from time to time authorized by the Governor-in-Council, and for other purposes.

H. CAMPBELL OSWALD.
Secretary.

NOTICE—The Nakusp & Slocan Railway Company will apply to the Parliament of Canada at its next session for an Act extending the time within which it may construct its railways, and annulling Montreal as the place for its head office with power to the Directors from time to time to change it by by-law, and for other purposes.

JOHN V. ARMSTRONG,
Secretary-Treasurer.

Notice is hereby given that application will be made to the Legislative Assembly of the Province of British Columbia at its next session, for an Act to consolidate certain mining leases of ground situated in and around Trond Gulch, Atlin District of British Columbia, and more particularly known as the "Gem," "Lampman," "Will o' the Wisp," "Engelhardt," "Gordon," "Cousin Jack," "Lancashire Lad," "Louise," "Pure Gold," "Ida," "Clifford," and "Only Chance," together with other adjoining or adjacent properties, that may hereafter be acquired by the applicants into one holding with a demise thereof from the Crown, for a period of 25 years from the final passage of the Act, with a right of renewal for a further period of 25 years, and that the water privileges and easements now held or hereafter acquired by the applicants, and in particular, the right of diverting and using 2,500 miners' inches from Surprise Lake and 900 miners' inches from Moose and Elk Lakes, be held, employed and enjoyed as appurtenant to the whole or any part of the said holdings; and to confirm to the applicants and their assigns solely, and with all other usual, necessary or incidental rights, powers or privileges as may be necessary or incidental or conducive to the attainment of the above objects or any of them.

HUNTER & OLIVER,
Solicitors for the Applicants.

MINERAL ACT, 1896.
(Form F.)

CERTIFICATE OF IMPROVEMENTS.
NOTICE.

Union Mineral Claim, situate in the Alberni Mining Division of Barclay District.

Where Located:—Sarita River.

Take notice that I, A. S. Going, agent for the Mount Sicker and British Columbia Development Company, Limited, Free Miner's Certificate No B49.165, 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 this 10th day of December, 1900.

A. S. GOING.

NOTICE is hereby given that 30 days after date I intend to apply to the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works for a license to prospect for coal on the following described land, situate on Telqua River, in Cassiar District:—Commencing at a post, said post being the northwest corner of claim, and identical with the southwest corner of G. Lacroix's prospecting claim, and running thence south 80 chains; thence east 80 chains; thence north 80 chains; and thence west 80 chains to the point of commencement; and containing 640 acres, more or less.

Dated 4th December, 1900.
Located 4th October, 1900.

AMOS WELLS

NOTICE is hereby given that 30 days after date I intend to apply to the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works for a license to prospect for coal on the following described land, situate on Telqua River, in Cassiar District:—Commencing at a post, said post being the northeast corner of the claim, and identical with the southwest corner of G. Lacroix's prospecting claim, and running thence south 80 chains; thence west 80 chains; thence north 80 chains; and thence east 80 chains to the point of commencement; and containing 640 acres, more or less.

Dated 4th December, 1900.
Located 4th October, 1900.

J. J. WELLS.

NOTICE is hereby given that 30 days after date I intend to apply to the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works for a license to prospect for coal on the following described land, situate on Telqua River, in Cassiar District:—Commencing at a post, said post being the southwest corner of claim, and identical with the northwest corner of Amos Wells' prospecting claim, and running thence north 80 chains; thence east 80 chains; thence south 80 chains; and thence west 80 chains to the point of commencement; and containing 640 acres, more or less.

Dated 4th December, 1900.
Located 4th October, 1900.

G. LACROIX.

NOTICE is hereby given that 30 days after date I intend to apply to the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works for a license to prospect for coal on the following described land, situate on Telqua River, in Cassiar District:—Commencing at a post, near the southeast branch of Telqua River, north of R. H. Hall's prospecting claim, said post being the southeast corner of this claim, and identical with the southwest corner of H. B. Robertson's prospecting claim, and running thence north 80 chains; thence west 80 chains; thence south 80 chains; and thence east 80 chains to the point of commencement; and containing 640 acres, more or less.

Dated 4th December, 1900.
Located 1st October, 1900.

F. H. SHEPHERD.

NOTICE is hereby given that 30 days after date I intend to apply to the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works for a license to prospect for coal on the following described land, situate on Telqua River, in Cassiar District:—Commencing at a post, near the southeast branch of Telqua River, north of L. M. Clifford's prospecting claim, running thence north 80 chains; thence east 80 chains; thence south 80 chains; and thence west 80 chains to the point of commencement, and containing 640 acres, more or less.

Dated 4th December, 1900.
Located 1st October, 1900.

H. B. ROBERTSON.

NOTICE is hereby given that 30 days after date I intend to apply to the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works for a license to prospect for coal on the following described land, situate on Telqua River, in Cassiar District:—Commencing at a post, said post being the northeast corner of claim, and identical with the northwest post of J. R. Neville-Aveling's prospecting claim, and running thence south 80 chains; thence west 80 chains; thence north 80 chains; and thence east 80 chains to point of commencement; and containing 640 acres more or less.

Dated 4th December, 1900.
Located 4th October, 1900.

J. O GRAHAME.

NOTICE is hereby given that 30 days after date I intend to apply to the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works for a license to prospect for coal on the following described land, situate on Telqua River, in Cassiar District:—Commencing at a post said post being the northwest corner of claim and identical with the southwest corner of J. O. Grahame's prospecting claim and running thence south 80 chains; thence east 80 chains; thence north 80 chains; and thence west 80 chains to the point of commencement; and containing 640 acres, more or less.

Dated 4th December, 1900.
Located 5th October, 1900.

F. W. ALEXANDER.
W. J. LARKWORTHY.
J. D. WELLS.

NOTICE is hereby given that 30 days after date I intend to apply to the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works for a license to prospect for coal on the following described land, situate on Telqua River, in Cassiar District:—Commencing at a post, said post being the northwest corner of claim, and identical with the southwest corner of H. B. Robertson's prospecting claim, and running thence north 80 chains; thence west 80 chains; thence south 80 chains; and thence east 80 chains to the point of commencement; and containing 640 acres, more or less.

Dated 4th December, 1900.
Located 4th October, 1900.

M. BATE, Jr.

NOTICE is hereby given that 30 days after date I intend to apply to the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works for a license to prospect for coal on the following described land, situate on Telqua River, in Cassiar District:—Commencing at a post, said post being the southeast corner, and near the southeast branch of Telqua River, north of L. M. Clifford's prospecting claim, running thence north 80 chains; thence east 80 chains; thence south 80 chains; and thence west 80 chains to the point of commencement, and containing 640 acres, more or less.

Dated 4th December, 1900.
Located 1st October, 1900.

H. B. ROBERTSON.

NOTICE is hereby given that 30 days after date I intend to apply to the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works for a license to prospect for coal on the following described land, situate on Telqua River, in Cassiar District:—Commencing at a post, said post being the northeast corner of claim, and identical with the southwest corner of G. Lacroix's prospecting claim, running thence north 80 chains; thence east 80 chains; thence south 80 chains; and thence west 80 chains to the point of commencement; and containing 640 acres, more or less.

Dated 4th December, 1900.
Located 4th October, 1900.

JOSEPH ANTOINE.

NOTICE is hereby given that 30 days after date we intend to apply to the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works for a license to prospect for coal on the following described land, situate on Telqua River, in Cassiar District:—Commencing at a post, said post being the northeast corner of claim, and identical with the southeast corner of J. O. Grahame' sprospecting claim and running thence 80 chains south; thence 80 chains west; thence 80 chains north; and thence 80 chains east to point of commencement; and containing 640 acres, more or less.

Dated 4th December, 1900.
Located 5th October, 1900.

F. W. ALEXANDER.
W. J. LARKWORTHY.
J. D. WELLS.

NOTICE is hereby given that 30 days after date we intend to apply to the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works for a license to prospect for coal on the following described land, situate on Telqua River, in Cassiar