

general meeting, and no doubt would have done so ere this but for the overtowering interest in railway construction into the Similkameen."

VANCOUVER BRANCH.

The Vancouver branch of the Provincial Mining Association was put upon a permanent footing at a largely attended meeting held in the Board of Trade rooms, Vancouver, on the evening of March 9. The branch was re-organized at a meeting held just previous to the Provincial Convention, with provisional officers, and on this occasion a permanent board was elected. The meeting was very representative.

Mr. Colin F. Jackson, provisional President, was in the chair, and in his introductory remarks briefly referred to the recent Convention held in Victoria as demonstrating that the Provincial Mining Association had come to stay and would do a great deal of good work. There were many reasons why the business men of Vancouver should rally round the local branch, and make it the important organization it should be in a city which was the commercial centre of the Province.

The following officers were then appointed:

President—Mr. C. F. Jackson.

First Vice-President—Mr. C. W. McMeeken.

Second Vice-President—Mr. James Findley.

Secretaries—Messrs. George Sheldon-Williams and T. J. Smith.

Treasurer—Mr. Campbell Sweeney.

Mr. Jackson said he had spoken to Mr. Sweeney, and that gentleman had said he would give the Association his hearty support. Mr. Sweeney had also stated that the Bankers' Association of Vancouver would probably elect a member to represent it in the Mining Association this year.

The Executive Committee, which by the amendment to the constitution will consist of 12 members instead of 25, and representing all classes of trade, will be as follows: Messrs. H. T. Lockyer, W. H. Malkin, E. P. Gilman, W. D. Haywood, Charles Law, George A. Walkem, R. P. McLennan, J. Y. McAdam, W. D. Ross, E. J. O'Sullivan, F. E. Woodside, and Frank Richards.

Mr. James Findley addressed the meeting relative to the mining industry on the Coast. He said that in Victoria much sympathy was shown with mines on the Coast. They had some mines directly tributary to the city, and appreciated the benefit they got from such properties as the Tyee and those on the West Coast of the Island. In Vancouver, the merchants made a bid for the trade of the whole Province, and yet showed comparatively little interest in these mines.

Mr. Lockyer, one of the delegates to the Convention, said that when Mr. Findley spoke of Vancouver people not taking interest in the Coast mines, he was right, and many of the business men of Vancouver were conspicuous by their absence that night. This should not be, as the commercial interests would develop as the mines progressed. Referring to the Convention, Mr. Lockyer said he was greatly impressed with the earnestness of those taking part. He had gone there with the idea that the Association was got up by some one with an axe to grind, but he soon saw that it was an earnest co-operation to put the mining industry on a sound basis. The delegates were men from all parts of the Province, who had left their work at their own expense to confer with others as to what was best for the mining industry. He had listened for political talk, but heard none. The officers were energetic and industrious men, and had the interests of the industry so at heart that they would work until conditions were improved. There should be a large membership in Vancouver, and all interested in the welfare of the Province should sign the roll. The commercial interests should, he thought, be the most largely represented.

Mr. J. H. Brownlee, who for five years has been operating in Atlin, said Vancouver had a wonderful heritage, and the people took more interest in mines than what was thought. When business men will drop everything and go down to the Convention, there's something doing here. Drop all talk of having stock and having been bitten. Mining is a legitimate business, and if rightfully followed is the best going. The

situation of Vancouver, he said, was admirable as a commercial centre for the mining industry. He thought the whole community, the Board of Trade, etc., should take a wholesome interest in the industry.

Mr. C. W. McMeeken said the work of the Association should be to so present the industry to the people that they may see why they should give it moral support. The real purpose should be to correct any faults which militated against successful operations. While the Association criticized, it should also take upon itself full responsibility of suggesting improvements.

Mr. Jackson said that to his mind the mining industry was the same as dealing with any article of trade. In all large operating centres, say of cotton, there were two classes those who buy and dabble in stocks, and those who knew what they were doing. The object of the Provincial Mining Association was firm, and if the members kept the sound principle before them, it would soon be seen that the mining industry was as worthy of support as any other in the Province.

There were several other speakers and among the suggestions made with the object of increasing interest in the mining industry were several advising the obtaining, for publication in the press, of information relative to the operation of mines and smelters, and the establishment of a mineral museum.

The proceedings closed with the adoption of a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Jackson, Mr. Lockyer, Mr. T. J. Smith and others, who stood up for the city and were chiefly instrumental in having the largest commercial city represented at the recent Convention.

SOME NOTES FROM THE MINING CAMPS.

THE COAST.

STEADY progress is being made in mining developments on Vancouver Island. At Mount Sicker three mines are now producing regularly, the latest addition to the list of shipping mines from this locality being the Richard III, which while only making a relatively small output of twenty tons a day, is yet earning profits of over \$200 a day. The last monthly returns from the Tyee showed that \$60,000 was realized, after deducting definite charges and freight on the treatment of 5,392 tons of ore. This month a rich find of ore, assaying over \$85 per ton, the values being chiefly in copper, was reported to have been made near Ladysmith. On the west coast of the Island, American capitalists are again interesting themselves in the iron occurrence at Barkley Sound and at other localities.

Arrangements are being made for the establishment of a branch of the Owen Sound Cement Works, of Ontario, at Saanich Arm, Vancouver Island. It is said that cement can be manufactured locally and placed on the market at about half the cost of the imported article.

YUKON.

It is stated that the amount of gravel on the Klondike dumps at the present time far exceeds that taken out up to the corresponding date last year, and it is generally believed that the proceeds from the dumps on all the creeks will be much greater when spring opens than was the case when the snow went in 1903.

WHITE HORSE.

Dr. A. C. Robertson, mine inspector in the Yukon, recently visited Bullion and other creeks within the area of the new White Horse diggings. In the course of an interview he stated that in his opinion the district offered opportunities for summer rather than winter working, for the depth to which the gravel is frozen is limited to a few feet, and directly the miner sinks below the frozen ground he encounters running water. Drain ditches, which are quite feasible, must be employed, therefore to work the diggings successfully. Dr. Robertson furthermore stated that he prospected as thoroughly as possible along Bullion Creek and every pan he washed showed colors, some being coarse gold.