

Report Is Confirmed

That Canadian Pacific and Crow's Nest Southern Have Reached Agreement.

The B. C. Southern Occupies the Railway Committee at Ottawa.

Mr. Brock Favors Repeal of Preferential Feature in Tariff.

From Our Own Correspondent. Ottawa, March 21.—The report that the Canadian Pacific and Crow's Nest Coal Company have reached an agreement...

Mr. Monk in the House to-day enquired what the government intended to do with the application made by Capt. Bernier for aid in equipping a vessel for the polar expedition.

Mr. Brock (Conservative, Centre Toronto) declared himself emphatically in favor of repealing the preferential feature of the present tariff.

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BANK OF ENGLAND.

Semi-Annual Meeting Declares Five Per Cent. Dividend.

GIANT POWDER EXPLODES.

Men Working in Rapid Transit Tunnel Seriously Hurt.

NEW YORK, March 21.—There was an explosion of Giant Powder today in the shaft of the Rapid Transit tunnel at 131st street and Broadway.

Manila, March 21.—Insurgents have attacked and burned the ungarioned office of the Philippine Commission in the city of Manila.

London, March 21.—The Daily Chronicle, professing to be able to give an outline of the negotiations between the British and French governments...

The Obstacle To Settlement

Lord Kitchener's Refusal to Grant Complete Amnesty to Rebel Leaders.

Terms He Offered to the Conquered Boers Were Most Generous.

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Trouble Averted

This Morning British and Russian Troops Will Leave Debatable Ground.

All Danger of Collision With French Forces Has Now Passed.

Band of Robbers Annoying Chinese Villages Dispersed by Germans.

Peking, March 22 (A. M.).—Count von Waldersee, Gen. Barrow, and Gen. Gopak have been in consultation, and the Russian troops from the disputed ground at Tien Tsin, provided the British also withdraw.

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Up-to-Date Styles at WEILER BROS.

Our first consignment of Fall Goods in the Upholstering, Drapery and Curtains line are now on sale, and we can only say that for coloring, artistic effect and value we have surpassed ourselves in these last purchases.

Latest Novelties From Paris, Berlin, London.

WEILER BROS.

Notices in The Gazette To Withdraw

Appointments to the Provincial Civil Service Given Notice of.

Dates and Places of the Spring Assizes in the Province.

Friday's issue of the provincial Gazette contained notice of the appointment of Messrs. Henry Harris, A. R. S. M., F. C. S., and Alexander McKillop, of Nelson, and John D. Moore, of Trail, to be special examiners at the examination of candidates for efficiency in the practice of assaying.

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Chinese Commission

THURSDAY, MARCH 22, 1901.

The Chinese witnesses and the legal fraternity had a field day at the Royal Commission yesterday. Nearly the whole time was consumed with the examination of Lee Cheong, of the Chinese firm of Tai Yung & Co., the leading Chinese business house in the city.

The evidence of Lee Cheong was important in that as a leading member of the Chinese board of trade his statement which he submitted was in a manner prepared by the witness and translated by Lee Mou Yow, is given in full here:

Occupation. No. of Chinese. Merchants 288. Wives of merchants and laborers 92. Male native born children 82. Domestic cooks and servants employed by whites 530. Sawmill hands 48. Cannery men 886. Laundrymen 197. Miscellaneous laborers unemployed 173. Females, no occupation whatsoever 4. Total 3,272.

Chinese Households of Different Classes in the City of Victoria, B. C. Merchants' families 45. Laborers' families 42. Ministers' families 1. Interests' families 1. Total 89.

The above households include: Merchants' wives 61. Laborers' wives 28. Ministers' wives 1. Interests' wives 1. Children, native born males 63. Children, native born females 82. Total 237.

Total population in the city of Victoria, B. C., for March ending February 17, 1901, \$1,050,935.12.

Imports from China, \$1,072,947.38. Goods purchased in Canada, \$464,369.35. Canada customs duties, wharfage, freight and drayage, 148,576.70. Revenue and road tax, 7,894.87. Water rates, gas and electric light, 9,432.29. Insurance, 4,114.20. Rents paid to white landlords (exclusive of laborers' dwellings), 34,274.73. Postage stamps, 807.50. Custom house brokerage in the city of Victoria, B. C., 296,000.25. Total capital invested in business in the city of Victoria, B. C., \$73,509.00.

The witness answered a number of questions put by President Clute and other members of the commission respecting details of the statement. He would, he said, gladly furnish further statements desired by the commission.

Witness gave many details respecting his own experiences in this country, his dress and habits he adopted the customs of this country in many things. He had been in Victoria, B. C., for some time, though adopting English sometimes. He had his wife and two children living with him here. He was a sick man wanted a white doctor who could have him. Most of the Chinese doctors studied western methods, but the Chinese themselves caring for them. He also gave some particulars of the Chinese in the city of Victoria, B. C., and in the schools in China. As to trade, 97 per cent of this was with white people and the other 3 per cent with his own people. The proportion of trade done by other Chinese merchants with white was from 60 to 80 per cent. He thought that labor would develop the resources of this country if permitted to enter freely. Chinese did not get very much, he said, cause there was not much business for them there. He thought hardy Chinese could stand the cold weather of the coast. China imported large quantities of lumber, flour, etc. The flour was mostly from the United States.

At the afternoon session Lee Cheong was recalled. He considered that 75 per cent of the average expenditures of the Chinese in this country was for articles purchased from white men, and 25 per cent in goods imported by China from China. The families had a general estimate, the details of which he was not sure. The Chinese had no union, nor had skilled trades such as tailors and shoemakers. It was nearly all done by the Chinese. He had seen a Chinese boy born in this country and he saw a great change in China from time to time. The influence of Chinese returning from here is very marked. Chinese boys born in this country are "several times smarter" than the boys in China. The importations would fall off greatly if Chinese were prohibited from coming here, and the good feeling between the two races would be hurt as well. If laboring classes were prohibited, those now here would save all they could and go back to China. The feeling for prohibition here had prevented many from coming. Those who were here had remained in their windows and doors broken, from boys breaking them. The families had cheaper rent and a nice cottage and garden, they would be constantly having their windows and doors broken, from boys breaking them. The families had not tried it on account of the experience of handies not in Chinatown, which were all battered from stones thrown by boys. He believed the same would happen if families of Chinese took to the residential portions of the city. If immigration were prohibited, he did not think it would affect the way in which the Chinese did their work. They became less numerous, it might be, but they would be more independent. He thought the industries of the country would be benefited by debarring the Chinese. He believed, regarding two wives, it was the custom, not a law, in China. It arose from the fact that they were very anxious to preserve the line of their family. They kept on getting over the fourth, fifth or sixth wife, but they were not previously married. If they did not have children by the others. Other Chinese owned land here, as well as his firm. As to the proportion of merchants to the Chinese population, witness submitted a statement showing of 288 merchants there were 1,000 Chinese, or more partners. He gave details of the number in each trade. In the class of merchants were

Imports

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Employees were not compelled to buy from the stores of the Chinese companies employing them, but there was a stated price fixed by all the merchants, so that it made no difference where they bought. There might be some instances where men were compelled to buy from employers. The Chinese thought the head tax act was passed to protect the white people; they did not think it had any effect referring to race or creed. Chinese could not bring their goods when they first came at the time of the building of the C. P. R. the restriction act was passed in 1885, and since then they could not bring their goods. He knew nothing of Chinese refusing to work in the brick yards with white men. He hoped that the two races would become one time. To Mr. Wilson witness said the \$1,069,000 in the sheet submitted represented goods sold by the Chinese merchants. He could not give figures as to amount paid to clerks and for service in the stores, but he could try and get the figures. The two items of real estate and capital invested were two separate items. The latter item did not include obligations to white merchants, but was merely the amount brought from China. All the real estate owned by Chinese was also included in the item. Witness explained further details of the statement he had submitted in the morning.

The cutting of the queue was looked upon in this country as a sign that the two races would become one time. It was not so in China, but the Chinese preferred following the universal custom, which had prevailed in China for many years. Chinese were willing to marry and associate with white people, but the idea they had of intermarriage in British Columbia. He knew of one case where a Chinese in Seattle had married a white girl and set out to take a trip to China. When they reached Vancouver the girl refused to further with him, which showed the objection was on the side of the white people. His opinion was that Chinese had no objection to intermarriage with white people. Higher class Chinese in China might object to their daughters marrying white men, but marriage there was not through love between the parties, but by arrangement between the parents. As to head tax, so far as he knew the individuals paid it themselves. There was no head tax when the Chinese were imported to work on the C. P. R. construction. He thought the tax had restricted immigration. The lower classes could not raise the \$100 Chinese dollar of course, but he thought the tax had restricted immigration. When the tax was doubled it had greater effect. He thought there might be more Chinese now here than before the tax. He estimated that there were not more than 10,000 Chinese in British Columbia. This included the 3,200 in Victoria. There were now less women than formerly. To Mr. Bradburn witness explained the working of the Benevolent Society. Indigent and disabled Chinese were sent back by the society to China. White doctors were quite extensively employed by Chinese.

The commission adjourned at the conclusion of the witness' evidence.

Ulukly Thirteen.—On Wednesday about 200 acres of bench land is under cultivation and produce fine crops, 250 more similar land with light brush easily cleared. Crops run through properly. Water rent of 600 inches with abundant water supply. Extensive range for cattle in vicinity. Dwelling house, fine barns, stables, cattle sheds, roof cellars, blacksmith shop, out-houses and other improvements. The crops stock, horses, farming implements and machinery are all purchased together with separately from the land. The above is one of the best farms in the no country, and offers an exceptional chance for a good investment.

Tenders will be received by the undersigned up to the 26th day of May, 1901, if they are not previously effected. For further particulars apply to J. A. FRASER, J. ANDREWS OLSON, Australian Ranch, Cariboo, B. C., or to CHEASE & CHEASE, Solicitors, Victoria, B. C.

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