

B. C. CUSTOMS RETURNS.

The following is a summary of the customs returns for the four ports of the Province of British Columbia for the month of September, 1891.

IMPORTS.

	VICTORIA	VANCOUVER	WESTMINSTER	NANAIMO	TOTAL
Dutiable Goods	\$167,961 00	\$ 64,182 00	\$ 10,063 00	\$ 11,302 00	\$253,511 00
Free Goods	61,703 00	18,811 00	1,969 00	389 00	\$82,872 00
Total Imports	\$229,667 00	\$ 83,023 00	\$ 12,032 00	\$ 11,692 00	\$322,701 00

REVENUE.

Duty Collected	\$ 57,680 12 ¹	\$ 21,267 01 ¹	\$ 10,891 00	\$ 1,272 20 ¹	\$ 91,110 63
Other Revenue	9,248 74 ¹	1,836 66 ¹	338 1 ¹	110 31 ¹	10,412 99
Total Collections	\$ 62,919 15 ¹	\$ 23,062 69 ¹	\$ 11,229 17	\$ 1,712 51 ¹	\$101,523 55

EXPORTS.

The Mine	\$ 30,515 00		\$ 22,421 00	\$27,200 00	\$80,256 00
The Fisheries	626,996 00	\$ 5,411 00	80,979 00		\$691,222 00
The Forest		9,319 00	18 00		9,337 00
Animals and their produce	59,262 00	1,730 00	201 00		61,233 00
Agricultural	90 00	265 00	10 00		365 00
Manufactures	1,335 00	7,856 00	2,256 00	10 00	11,651 00
Miscellaneous	3,159 00				3,159 00
Total Exports	\$761,587 00	\$ 74,677 00	\$11,885 00	\$27,200 00	1,175,119 00
\$2,910 Billion.					

B. C. BOARD OF TRADE.

The advertising of Victoria and the Province, so as to make the advantages for investing capital better known throughout the world, occupied attention at the quarterly meeting of the Board of Trade held Friday afternoon. Mr. A. C. Flumerfelt, the president, in the chair.

The Agent General wrote from London asking for photographs representing the Board of Trade and various industries of the city, to be published in *Commerce*. The committee on manufactures recommended a list of the most suitable, and the suggestions of the committee were ratified.

From Port Elizabeth, South Africa, was received information as to harbor facilities and other matters. Copies will be distributed to the various lumbering firms.

Next came a communication from Messrs. McPhillips, Wootton & Barnard, enclosing a petition from the Chinese opium firms pointing out that by the closing down of the refineries here a number of Chinese had been thrown out of employment, and asking the government to charge the \$1 a pound duty on crude opium alone, allowing the leaves and covering of the ball to come in free as tare. This would enable the firms to compete successfully in the United States market. The board was asked to endorse the petition. Some little discussion went on, and Mr. Hall finally moved that the petition be referred to the council of the board.

Mr. F. B. Gregory maintained that the matter could not come up for discussion, no notice having been given. On reference to the by-laws it was found that no notice having been given a dis-

cussion could only ensue on the consent of two-thirds of the members present at the meeting.

The Chair immediately put the question, and on its being voted down declared the petition and communication out of order.

A communication from F. J. Claxton was for the same reason ruled out of order.

The Chair stated that happily there was one thing that notice had been given of—the advertising of Victoria. He mentioned that Lord Brassey unfortunately could not change his arrangements, or that gentleman would have been pleased to have addressed a meeting of the board. While here Lord Brassey had been impressed with the fact that the opening up of China, which would likely result from the present war, and the large market that would be created for coal in the Orient, would be of great advantage to British Columbia coal mines and that it would be well to diffuse information in the Orient and Australia as to British Columbia's resources. The question was, how should Victoria be advertised?

In reference to the harbor, Mr. Seabrook remarked that a chart had been made by Mr. F. C. Gamble, the Dominion Government engineer, showing that at dead low water there were 30 feet of water alongside the outer wharves.

Dealing with the discussion of the best means for advertising the City and Province, the Chair remarked that business men from British Columbia visiting Japan had found a lack of information about this Province, and had suggested that something be done to remedy this state of things.

Mr. Brownlee thought, as the question

was such a large one, a special committee should be appointed to report to the Board.

Mr. Ellis expressed the opinion that a well illustrated pamphlet with statistics and other information, showing the opportunities for the investment of capital should be compiled in an attractive and concise form. Copies should be distributed in large numbers all over the world from central points at the larger cities. This had been the system followed all over the continent, and was the best.

In supporting this, Mr. W. Morris remarked that in other directions good might be accomplished. The present industries here should be fostered, and there were many industries lacking, such as glass works and woollen mills, which should be started and supported in the city. Then all goods sent out from British Columbia should have the name of the Province stamped or labelled upon them. He thought a little advertisement might be put on the salmon labels, for instance.

Mr. M. Miller held that the effort should be to attract people with money by showing what a good return could be had from capital invested here.

Mr. Mason advocated having photographs of the city and district published in the principal illustrated English papers.

Capt. Cox, speaking of his experience in Japan, told of the lack of knowledge about Victoria there, owing to the want of advertising.

Mr. Gregory supported Mr. Ellis' idea of sending out a good illustrated pamphlet, and suggested that the question should be referred to a committee to report.

Mr. Jensen thought a good lithograph of the city with all the principal places marked on it, hung up in hotels, steamers and railway stations of large cities in various countries, would be a good idea, which would work advantageously in connection with literature giving information.

Mr. Cathbert, in reference to attracting tourists, believed that the streets of the city and the natural advantages should be improved, instead of being so neglected as in the past.

After a little farther exchange of views, the matter was referred to a committee to be appointed later by the president.

The following new members were elected: Thos. Shaw, B. W. Pearse, C. J. V. Spratt, C. H. Stickels, R. H. Payne, of Speiling & Co., bankers, London.

The president touched on the subject of the reading room, advising the members to introduce visiting friends there and help to popularize it. He stated that contributions for the permanent exhibit showing the resources of the Province would be gladly received from members.

The meeting adjourned subject to the call of the president.—*Colonist*.