

terest, in any branch of industry, directly or indirectly connected with mining, in the Province."

The *Victoria Colonist* recently remarked editorially: "A very gratifying feature of the late Convention of mining delegates held in this city is found in the fact that a perfect understanding has been reached between the Government and the Mining Association. The impression that prevailed on one hand that the Association was run on political lines adverse to the Government, and on the other that the policy of the Government was inimical to the objects of the Association, has been dispelled. It has been shown that political issues do not come within the range of the Association's aims, and it has also been established to the satisfaction of all that the Government policy is in accord with the mainspring of the Association, viz.: the advancement of the mineral interests of the Province."

The day before the opening day of the Second Annual Convention the *Nelson Daily News* published some criticism of the Provincial Mining Association by "a well known mining man," whom it reported to have said, in part: "I think the forthcoming meeting of the Association will be of benefit to the mining interests. The Association has the faults of nearly all comparatively new organizations, but on the whole I believe it has a career of usefulness before it. . . . An effort will be made, however, at the Victoria meeting to prevent a repetition of the mistakes of the past and to run the affairs of the organization in a better manner than heretofore. When this is done I believe that the Provincial Mining Association will have a long career of usefulness to the mining industry before it."

An enlarged photograph of Mr. James Moore, of Black Bear Creek, Cariboo, one of the pioneer placer miners of Yale and Cariboo, has been placed in the office in Victoria of the Provincial Mining Association. The photograph is an excellent one, taken and enlarged by Mr. H. Mortimer Lamb. Mr. J. B. Hobson, First Vice-President of the Association, kindly had the picture framed. The Secretary will report to the Executive Committee at its next meeting the receipt of this memento of the early days of mining in British Columbia, and no doubt that body will at the earliest opportunity duly intimate to the donors its appreciation of the kindly thoughtfulness which has placed it in possession of so interesting a souvenir. Mr. Moore was a delegate from Quesnel Lake to both the 1903 and 1904 Conventions of the Association.

The Rossland *Miner* observes: "The Kamloops branch of the Provincial Mining Association has been disbanded. It is difficult to understand why the people of such a promising mineral district as that which surrounds Kamloops should allow such a thing to occur, except it is that they do not know enough to foster and protect their own best interests."

"It has been very pertinently remarked," says the *Rossland Miner*, "that the future of British Columbia depends on the growth and development of the mining industry. Mining is already conceded to be our premier industry, while agriculture takes and must continue to take a very secondary place. Yet year after year the Provincial Government appropriates a considerable sum in the aggregate in support of a fruit growers' association, a dairymen's association, a flockmasters' association, agricultural societies and the British Columbia Agricultural Association. The Provincial Mining Association has already proved its efficiency and usefulness. It is, however, handicapped and hampered for want of funds. It has therefore a strong claim on the Government for financial assistance and encouragement."

The following is from the news notes of the *Nelson Daily News* of Sunday, March 6: "H. E. Croasdaile and T. G. Proctor returned on Friday from the Coast, where they went as delegates to the Provincial Mining Association. In speaking yesterday about the Convention Mr. Croasdaile said the first effort of the Nelson delegation was directed to getting

in touch with the Government. This, he says, was accomplished in a diplomatic manner, as the Government at one time was hostile to the Provincial Mining Association because it thought that the Association was endeavouring to encroach upon its prerogatives. It was demonstrated to the satisfaction of the ministry by the Nelson delegation and the hearty co-operation of the other delegations that the only end that the Association had in view was the betterment of the mining industry and this resulted in a better feeling on the part of the ministers toward the Association, which it is thought, will lead to good results."

At the annual meeting of members of the Vancouver Board of Trade, held on March 1, the retiring president, Mr. H. T. Lockyer, manager of the Hudson's Bay Company's large establishment at Vancouver, in the course of his review of the year then just closed made the following reference to the Provincial Mining Association: "It is gratifying to note the good work being done by the Provincial Mining Association of British Columbia, a body comprising representatives of all sections of this industry. At the Annual Convention, recently held in Victoria, I was fortunately permitted to attend as a delegate from Vancouver and was struck with the earnestness of purpose on the part of all members of the Association, which appears to have but one object, and that is to place the general mining industry of our Province on a more equitable and workable basis, and it would seem to me, therefore, that the Association can rightly ask for the support and co-operation of everyone engaged in the mercantile business, as we know how much the latter owes to the development of the mining industry."

On March 22 the secretary of the Provincial Mining Association received a letter from the office of the Minister of Customs, as follows:—

"Dear Sir: I am directed by the Hon. The Minister of Customs to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 4th instant, conveying to him a resolution adopted by your Association, urging the Dominion Government to allow the free importation of oils for use in the concentration of ores. The Minister desires me to say to you that the subject has received favourable consideration at the hands of the Government, and an Order-in-Council was recently passed in the following terms:—

"That oil (petroleum) be transferred to the list of goods which may be imported into Canada free of duty, when imported by miners or mining companies or concerns, to be used in the concentration of ores of metal in their own concentrating establishments, under such regulations as the Minister of Customs may prescribe."

"Yours truly,

"JOHN BAIN,
"Assistant Commissioner."

The following comment is from the *Similkameen Star* of March 12: "The second Annual Convention of the Provincial Mining Association has gone on record as being most successful and interesting in every respect. No extraneous matters were introduced to mar the object of convening; not a jarring note was sounded nor friction felt throughout. Politics and social questions were strictly tabooed, notwithstanding the prediction of some morbid minds that the Association would develop into a political machine or become the tool of capitalists. If labour has not been as strongly represented numerically as it should have been it is labour's own fault. The Association may now be said to have crossed the Rubicon of its existence and to be fairly set out on the crusade that gave it birth. It is manned and equipped for offensive and defensive work and cannot fail to prove a power 'behind the throne' on all mining matters requiring legislative treatment. Freed from all taint of political animus the deliberations of such an influential body of men must be profitable to all and no man can afford to withhold his support of either membership or contribution. Princeton, by reason of its importance as a mining centre, must have a representative on the executive as well as have delegates to the