

PETITION.

To the Honourable the Legislative Assembly of the Province of British Columbia :

The petition of the undersigned humbly sheweth:—

That the Columbia River and Western Railway is applying for a Bill to enable it to construct a railway from Trail to Penticton, and therein the term allowed for the completion of such railway in six years; and whereas it is greatly in the interest of the Province that such railway should be completed through to Penticton at as early a date as possible, so that the products of the Okanagan Valley may find a market in Rossland and other places of growing importance in the Kootenay District, now drawing their supplies almost wholly from the American side. Your petitioners would humbly suggest that, while every encouragement should be given to the promoters of the undertaking, great care should be exercised to safeguard and promote the interests of the Province generally, by securing the complete construction of the railway at a much earlier date than proposed, and your petitioners would humbly urge that a clause be inserted in the Bill that if the promoters fail to complete the road within two years, then any person or company shall have the right to apply for and obtain a charter to build and operate a railway from Penticton to such point as the proposed Columbia River and Western Railway shall then be completed to, and there connect with the Columbia River and Western Railway, or at such other point on its road as may be most convenient to such person or company, and upon the starting construction of such railway from Penticton the charter of the Columbia River and Western Railway for the portion unfinished shall cease, and the person or company building and making connection with their road shall be granted the use of the Columbia River and Western Railway as to road, depôts, terminals, etc., on such terms as to division of receipts acquired while using their road, as may be agreed upon or fixed by arbitration.

Your petitioners humbly point out that such an arrangement will prevent the large trade of that Southern Railway going wholly into the States.

Therefore, your petitioners humbly pray that Your Honourable House will limit the time for building this road, and insert in the Bill a clause giving compulsory running powers to any other company organized to build that portion of the road not built by the Columbia River and Western Railway.

Your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[L.S.]

THOS. F. MCGUIGAN, *City Clerk.*

HENRY COLLINS, *Mayor.*

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Aldermen of the City of Vancouver.

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