PETITION.

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To the Honourable the Speaker and Members of the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia:

We, the undersigned business men, householders, and property owners, resident in the Town of Nelson, hereby humbly pray that your Honourable Body will pass a Bill chartering the Consumers' Water Works Company of Nelson, for the following reasons :---

1. The town of Nelson is not incorporated, and until it is the people resident in it will be compelled to depend on private enterprise to furnish an adequate supply of water for both household uses and protection against fire. Unless private enterprise is in a measure guaranteed privileges in the way of rights to take water from streams, to lay pipes in streets, etc., the undertaking is not one likely to be entered into on a very large scale. Private enterprise (the promoters of the Consumers' Water Works Company) has already laid over a mile of mains in Nelson, which is ample for the present requirements of the town—as regards both household purposes and fire protection—and no fault is found with either the price charged or the supply afforded. No charge is made for water supplied for fire purposes, or for uses in government offices, and provisos to that effect should be placed in the Bill. Also a proviso that in the event of the town of Nelson being incorporated, that the town be allowed the right to acquire the water works of the company at a fair valuation.

2. The company is strictly a local one, its shareholders being residents of the town and consumers of water, therefore its managers are more likely to work to the best interests of the town and its people than if the company was a foreign one.

And your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray, etc.

J. FRED. HUME & CO., HOUSTON & INK, E. CORNING, WILSON & PERDUE, GEO. A. BIGELOW & CO., JAMES DELANEY, W. C. PHILLIPS, EDWARD THOMAS.

And 51 others.

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