

ever, upon the need for such a line, and announces the expectation that lines operating in the North-West will be extended to British Columbia, and to the American systems on Puget Sound.

The improvements of the harbor of Victoria undertaken by private enterprise are well advanced. And it is recommended by the Board that efforts be made to permanently extend the harbor by building a breakwater in the outer harbor of Victoria from Holland Point to Broachey's Ledge.

The Shuswap & O'Kanagan Railway, likely to be finished in 1892, and the branch line connecting with the C. P. R. at or near Revelstoke, are referred to. And it is announced as likely that the Northern Pacific Railroad Co. will shortly extend their line to terminate at a point on the southern shore of the Straits of Fuca, adjacent to Victoria, whence it will connect with the Esquimalt & Nanaimo Railway by a steam ferry, thus giving to Vancouver Island the advantages of a third means of direct communication with eastern and southern points. The extension northward of the Esquimalt & Nanaimo Railway is still hoped for.

Paragraphs of the report deal with the salmon fisheries of the province, and with the deep-sea fisheries. Eighteen hundred and ninety was the year of the largest salmon exports known in the history of the canning industry, owing to an unprecedented supply of fish on Fraser river, as many as 414,291 cases being exported from Victoria to Great Britain, Australia, and Eastern Canada, in addition the shipments of salted salmon, aggregating a value of nearly \$2,500,000. The scarcity of unskilled labor year by year is a source of considerable anxiety to the canners. The discriminating character of the fishery regulations at Ottawa is complained of.

The president made an energetic speech on the functions of a Board of Trade, and Mr. Fell had some strong words for people who filled up the harbor, and for others who drained filth into them. Mr. H. C. Beeton, the provincial agent in England, said some very complimentary things of the report.

Mr. Ward desired to resign the presidency, but was not permitted. After some ineffectual nominations, the election resulted as follows:

President—Mr. R. Ward.

Vice-president—Mr. T. B. Hall.

Council and Board of Arbitration—Messrs. Rithet, Ker, Flummerfelt, Turner, Johnston, McQuade, Fell, Earl, Heistermann, Bouchier, Gray and Bullen.

On motion, the appointment of a secretary, Mr. Monteith having found himself unable on account of other engagements to carry on his increasing duties, was left for the action of the new Board. On the 23rd July a special meeting of the Board was held, when seventeen applications for the secretaryship were received. After several ballots, Mr. F. Elworthy was elected.

BRITISH COLUMBIA NEWS.

We have received files of the New Westminster, Victoria, and Vancouver dailies of 23rd and 24th instants, from which we take various items of interest, which will be found below. Mr. Walter Taylor, formerly of Toronto, but now manager of the British Columbia Fruit-canning Company, tells the *World* that the establishment of these works will furnish a steady market for the products of the gardens and orchards of British Columbia, and will stimulate fruit-growing in larger quantities than heretofore. "The opening of the factory

on Homer street has been delayed for some weeks, but now part of it is running busily, and the remainder will soon be fitted up, and from 25 to 30 hands employed. Already their flavoring extracts are on the market, and they have begun to ship coffee and ground spices. Fruit canning began last week, and shortly the fruit evaporators will be in working order. Mr. Taylor predicts that within one year communication will be opened with South and Central America and Mexico, so that they can import spices and tropical products direct from the growers." This statement, our Maritime Province readers will say, sounds like going a long way from home for news. But Mr. Taylor, when he lived in Ontario, was known as a truthful man, and a year's residence in the inspiring climate of the Golden West would not make him say what he did not believe. So mote it be—his statement about Central America, we mean.

The representative of the Pacific Mail Steamship Company, Mr. George H. Rice, has been visiting Victoria. And it is nuts for the Victorians to have the promise of that company to run their steamers to Victoria, which city the C.P.R. folks deeply offended by taking their steamers direct to Vancouver. "Now," says Mr. Rice, "the intention is to bring our steamers to Victoria; that's settled, and we'll carry out that programme to the full. We'll come here to Victoria and we'll go no further. The first steamer to come here will be the "China," which will arrive about August 2nd, but the "City of Pekin," which leaves China to-day, has a large complement of both passengers and freight for Victoria."

All the licenses that are to be distributed among the fishermen and cannerymen, *Truth* says, have been taken up, 150 of them going to the former, and 350 to the latter, according to regulations. The number of licenses to the fishermen who sell the salmon to the canneries is limited to one, for which is paid \$5, while for each license up to 20 the canneries pay \$20, and for each one above 20 they pay \$50. The *Times* has been informed that both the cannerymen and fishermen are very dissatisfied with the present regulations, "the Minister of Fisheries not being able to understand the ins and outs of his department as far as British Columbia is concerned."

The Skeena River canneries are just now enjoying the best salmon run for years, but unfortunately cannot use all the fish owing to the shortness of hands. One cannery has had to throw away as many as 300 or 400 fish. On the Naas the run is not so good. The B. A. P. and the Standard head the pack on the Skeena, each having about 11,000 cases up; the other canneries on the river average about 8,000. On the Naas the average is 6,000 cases, and the packers are waiting for fish.—*Times*, 23rd.

After an absence of three months or more in England, Mr. C. D. Rand, of Vancouver, has arrived at that city, and tells the *News-Advertiser* that not British Columbia alone, but the Dominion itself, is very little known in England, and this simply for the lack of properly advertising it. American cities and districts on the other hand are familiar to the people because they are kept constantly in their memory. He says further that mining enterprises are not readily taken up by English capitalists, owing to the depression in the Australian and South African mining industry. He found therefore that it was unadvisable to push the B.C. milling and mining project at present. The other project which he placed before the capitalists of London was the Vancouver Lands and Securities Corporation,

which has been stocked at £500,000, and he claims to have been very successful in this.

A Barkerville letter of July 17th to the *News* gives a lot of items from the gold fields: The Island Mountain Mill will be running ten stamps about the 1st of August, crushing and saving the free gold—storing the concentrates until the Government mill, now building, is ready. The Black Jack quartz mill started on Thursday crushing, and also saves the free gold and storing. Black Jack Hydraulic Claims took out a gold nugget 13 ounces some six weeks ago. A claim owned by Veith and Bowland of the 150-mile post on Snow Shoe Creek paid 10 ounces the first day's clean up.

The Victoria Flour and Rice Mills have distributed 25 tons of seed wheat among the farmers at Ladner's Landing. The mills will buy back the product of their gift after harvest.

One evidence of Westminster's prosperity, in the eyes of the *Colonist*, is the fact that every team, horse, wagon, express, dray or other draught vehicle or animal is kept busy all the week, and has been so right through the present season. The wheels of trade do not clog with idleness in this town.

Among notes concerning Kootenay district are the following from the *Miner*:—At the Silver King work is being prosecuted on the tunnel. The Poorman will continue to pound away on the gold rock from that mine. The net result of ten stamps dropping ten hours a day is about \$400 daily in free gold and concentrates. Major & Campbell have made a discovery on the east side of the lake, about 15 miles south of the Hendryx Blue Bell. The ore is a copper base, but its value is yet undetermined. Watson & Ernest have made another discovery at the Hot Springs, a mile south-east of the Syklone. They report the ledge 12 feet wide. The ore carries lead, silver, and copper. The bond on the Queen Victoria, a copper prospect eight miles west of Nelson, has not been thrown up, as currently reported. The bond is held by men connected with the Canadian Pacific, who are merely waiting to learn the result of working tests.

At Langley, on the 21st, all were busy gathering a heavy yield of hay, with laborers scarce. The plums and apples were reported in forward condition. Potatoes and vegetables looked remarkably well and gave promise of an abundant produce.

LICENSES IN MONTREAL.

The license inspector for the Province of Quebec publishes a list of the liquor and other licenses issued in the district of Montreal between the 1st of May and the 30th of June last. It appears that there are in this list 1,338 names. Among them are the keepers of 357 city hotels, 303 restaurants, and 572 city groceries. Then there are eleven hotels in St. Cunegonde, and 53 hotels in other towns. Hotels in country parishes, 72; St. Cunegonde groceries, 25; groceries in other towns, 56; groceries in country districts, 62; beer bottlers, 29; club licenses, 8. This number, says the *Gazette*, in commenting on the figures, does not include all the drinking places in the district, for a good many licenses have been issued since the beginning of this month. There are thus some 1,100 drinking places in the city of Montreal. The contrast with Toronto in this respect is marked, for here only 200 liquor licenses are issued, 150 of them tavern and 50 shop licenses. The number of drinking places, including known and even suspected dives, has been wonderfully reduced in Toronto since the amendment of the laws