

THE SPEAR IS POPULAR.

White Seal Hunters Find They Can Do as Well With It as With the Gun.

Good Catches in Behring Sea Rule This Year—The "Olsen" Comes Here.

Four more of the sealing fleet returned home yesterday, among them the Walter L. Rich, from Behring sea. She is about the first sealer back from the sea, and brings the good catch of 1,750 skins, which when added to her coast take give her a total of 2,441 skins. Besides these she secured a sea otter and a small number of hair seal. The weather was commencing to get pretty rough when the Rich left the sea and had it not been for this she would have remained longer. On September 6, the day the Rich started for home, she spoke the U.S.S. Albatross, and the latter reported the following catches: Sappho, 1,234; Triumph, 2,000; Deshaix, of West Bay, 350; Boreas, 445; Peabody (American), 908; Kilkenny, 600; and Minnie, 1,400. The only vessels spoken directly were the Ainoka, Venture and Kate. Capt. Heister of the Ainoka was met on August 29 with a catch of 1,000. He intended to remain in the sea until late this month, but will no doubt change his mind the stormy weather comes. It was on the 30th August when the Venture and Kate were overtaken. Each had a catch of 700 skins. Regarding the Rich's catch, the largest number taken on any one day was 278, and the smallest 10. She lowered her boats—twelve canoes manned by Indians and two boats by whites—twenty times during August. Seals, though not plentiful, were found to be easily taken with the spear. One of the schooner's white hunters says he does not want any more guns to hunt with, so long as he can spear seals.

The schooner Ocean Belle had her flag flying at half mast on coming into port, out of respect to the memory of four of her crew. From start to finish, her expedition was an unfortunate one. She had made Race Rocks on Thursday night and it was only by skillful navigation that she was not a wreck. Early yesterday morning while coming through the narrows at the place a squall arose placing her in dangerous proximity to the rocks. Her anchor, which had been lowered, and several fathoms of chain, broke loose and were lost, though promptly an effort to recover them may prove successful. The schooner's catch for the entire season only amounts to 804 skins. She hunted on the Japanese and Copper Island coasts, but did not go near the sea. On the 31st of July, as reported in yesterday's Colonist, Edgar Smiley, one of her hunters, died of consumption and was buried at sea the following day. Earlier in the season the Ocean Belle lost a boat's crew, who were undoubtedly drowned, as their crews were afterwards picked up by the schooner Ocean and Hattie about forty miles off land. The crew's names were A. Dillery, John Backerson and Claude Laird. Dillery, who belonged to Victoria, was hunter and was a young unmarried man. Backerson was a young Russian and Claude Laird an American. Both were about 18 years of age. The schooner was on her way to the left her schooner on April 28, and like the others were warned by Captain O'Leary to keep within sight of the vessel as the weather was foggy. That was the last seen of them. Again later in the season the Belle lost another of her boats in which were William Henderson, T. Showlander, and Herman Gunn. They were away from the schooner over two weeks and were four days in their boat with little to eat or drink, exposed to all the dangers of the sea. By good luck, they reached Yokohama, from where they took passage on the Penelope, which shortly afterwards transferred them to their own vessel.

The schooner Tessa, another of the fleet to arrive yesterday, reports an unsuccessful cruise. She had been to the Copper Island coast and took in all 1,225 skins during the season. The Outo's trip was also barren of incidents. Her Copper Island coast catch was 618 skins, leaving her with 1,037 skins for the season. Before leaving the Russian coast she spoke the Sea Lion on August 29 with 2,200 odd skins. The Outo's Copper Island catch is the largest yet reported, but it is believed Captain Baker of the Pioneer will yet be top liner for that locality, though nothing has recently been heard of him.

VICTORIA HER FUTURE HEADQUARTERS.
The Astoria sailing schooner Louis Olsen, which recently arrived in port from a hunting expedition along the Japanese and Copper Island coasts, has been purchased by Captain Williams, her skipper, and will in future make Victoria her headquarters. She would be placed under the British flag, but it was not for the fact that Captain Williams is an American subject. The vessel, however, is virtually added to the Victoria fleet. Captain Williams says that he has been getting better prices for seal skins here than anywhere else, and he finds that as this port is made the headquarters of sealers he can more advantageously fit out here than elsewhere. Captain Williams, who has been a voyager among the South Sea Islands for many years, has a fine collection of curiosities. Among them is a South Sea Islander's sword and execution instrument. The latter is a stick about five feet in length and a little over an inch in thickness, made of palm wood. A foot or so of the stick is left bare for a handle, and the remainder is covered with a fine matting, over which, running in parallel but winding lines, are four columns of shark teeth, tightly fastened to the stick. The instrument is used more for torturing than for execution. Another curiosity which Captain Williams has is a cane made of the jaw bone of a sperm whale, with a whale's tooth artistically and perfectly carved into a man's hand. The cane was made by a sailor with a convenient jack-knife.

MARINE NOTES.
The R.M.S. Empress of India left Yokohama for this port last Friday, with 35 saloon and 350 steerage passengers, 160 of the latter, the first Chinese brought here in months, being for this port. The liner's cargo includes 500 tons of coal freight, and 2,000,500 pounds for overland points. The American barkentine Iringard, which arrived in the Royal Roads a few days ago, has gone up to the Hastings mill for a lumber cargo. The British ship Royal Tar, which was here about twelve years ago, sailed into the Royal Roads yesterday morning. She comes from Honolulu to sea orders. She brought cargo up from Sydney to Honolulu but is now in ballast. The machinery of the wrecked steamer William Irving, which sank on the Fraser river some time ago, is being prepared for removal as soon as the water is at a favorable stage. The Iringard, which has been awaiting

charter here for some days, has been secured to load wheat in Portland for New York, and will sail as soon as she gets a crew together. The Charmer brought no mail last evening from points further east than Winnipeg.

THE OKANAGAN COUNTRY.

(From the Vernon News.)
Most of the farmers are engaged in fall ploughing, the recent rains having put the ground in excellent condition.

A puma was seen last week near the upper end of Long lake. These animals are reported to be unusually plentiful in the Nicola valley.

A circus of mill machinery for Ellis & Co. arrived on Monday, and two other cars are on the way. Mr. Ellis fully expects to have the mill running before the contract time, October 15. S. O. Smith and Jas. Christie returned on Friday from up the Spallumcheen river and Mabel lake, after timber limits. They are well satisfied with the results of their tour of about a fortnight, during which they thoroughly examined the river and circumnavigated the lake. Mr. Smith speaks very highly of the timber in this section; cedar ranging from eighteen inches to six feet in diameter is found in abundance, and a considerable quantity of white pine of an excellent quality may also be obtained. On next cedar limit which he expects to estimate the quantity of timber to amount to about 7,000,000 feet on about 500 acres. During their trip the explorers saw much country suitable for cultivation, including the Trinity valley section which has lately attracted a number of settlers, and as a road is made into this district it will rapidly fill up with home seekers. The land is of excellent quality, and in many places, where fires have run over, it can be cleared with very little trouble or expense.

Leonard Norrie came back on Tuesday from a trip to Midway, during which he made arrangements for the completion of the Boundary creek road. The work will be pushed ahead with all possible expedition so as to ensure the completion of the road before frost sets in. About five weeks will see the road completed, and Pentlith connected with Kettle river. Mr. Norrie was much impressed with the richness of the mines in the Boundary mountain district, and feels certain that great future is ahead of this camp as well as Camp McKinney.

Each week brings to light some hitherto hidden treasure. The most recent find was made by Mr. John Meyer on Saturday last between the Wellington and Kettle rivers. The first find was made on a trail that had been travelled by a great number of men. Mr. Meyer's exertions discovered a ledge of good galena ore, which should be rich in silver, with the possibility that it carries gold as well. The ledge is about two feet wide, and being in the neighborhood in which high grade ore exists on other claims, on development may prove a valuable find to the discoverer.

FIRE ESCAPES.

The act for the prevention of accidents by fire in hotels and other public buildings which comes into effect on the 1st day of next month provides that on every hotel or more storied building, an outside ladder shall be erected eight feet from the ground extending to all the stories, each ladder to be of iron of sufficient strength to sustain the weight of at least six full grown persons at the same time. The ladder is to be of fire escape of a certain description in each bedroom situate above the ground floor. Notices of fire escape must be posted in conspicuous places throughout each building. Full powers of inspection are given the officer whose duty it shall be to compel compliance with the provisions of the Act. The penalty for non-compliance of the requirements of the Act may go as high as \$200 and not less than \$20, and in default of paying such fine and costs imprisonment for a period not exceeding three months, with or without hard labor.

Dr. Price's Cream Baking Powder
Awarded Gold Medal Midwinter Fair, San Francisco.

CARETAKER EDE'S DISMISSAL.

TO THE EDITOR:—Your remarks on the disgraceful dismissal of caretaker Ede are endorsed by nine-tenths of this community. Mr. Ede had done no wrong, he was accused of no specific neglect of duty, but he was sacrificed to stone for the groves, if not criminal, carelessness of the council, without being given a hearing or a chance to exonerate himself. This, sir, is the worst kind of tyranny and in direct conflict with our cherished ideas of British justice. Our worthy city fathers, I am informed, look upon this as a trivial affair. It may be so to them; but I assure you it is a serious matter for poor Ede, who now finds himself and family turned out upon the street to shift as best they may.

I have frequently visited Ede's lake, and have always found Ede on the job. The men must have done the same. During three quarters of its official life the council saw nothing wrong, but no sooner is public attention directed to the horrible condition of the filter, and the discovery is made that Ede has neglected his duty. In what manner he has done so we are not informed. Enough for the council that Ede is poor and friendless and can neither vote nor kick. Was the caretaker supposed to clean out the filter beds single handed? Was he his duties, and in what manner did he neglect them?

Common humanity and justice surely demand that before a public servant is deprived of his livelihood, for alleged misfeasance, he should be furnished with a specification of the charges against him and given an opportunity of disproving them. The patience and sympathy of the Victoria ratepayer are proverbial, but a storm is brewing, and when the present knights of the civic round table are retired one of the first acts of their successors should be to make amends to the unfortunate man who has been so cruelly and heartlessly sacrificed in atonement for the gross and culpable carelessness, simplicity and blundering on the part of our civic rulers.

CITIZENS.

SIGNAL TRIUMPHS WON

By Dr. Price's Cream Baking Powder.
Two signal triumphs have been achieved by Dr. Price's Cream Baking Powder. First it received Highest Award and Diploma at the World's Columbian Exposition of 1893. Next it secured Highest Award and Gold Medal at the California Midwinter Fair of 1894. At both fairs it surpassed all competitors in every respect. The award, in each instance, was for strongest leavening power, perfect purity and general excellence. It was sustained by the unanimous vote of the judges. The victory at Chicago establishes the supremacy of Dr. Price's as "The Foremost Baking Powder in the World." The triumph at San Francisco confirms and emphasizes it.

HAMBURG, Sept. 20.—The Elbe Scholten brewery at Nienstedten, was burned to-day. Loss, 800,000 marks.

E. M. JOHNSON

37 Government Street, Corner of Broughton.

ESTABLISHED 1879.

Real Estate Agent, Conveyancer and Notary Public

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FOR SALE---A 1388-ACRE FARM

About 1000 Acres of which is Ploughable Prairie of First-class Quality.

120 Head (more or less) Cows, Steers, 3-year olds, etc., etc., (about 60 or more to calve this spring), 1 pedigree Hereford Bull (rating 8 years).

7 Mares (in foal to a good stallion), 1 Horse, Pigs, Chickens, etc.

Ploughs, Harrows, Reaper, Fanning Mill, Wagon, Sleds and usual Farm Implements.

Double Harness, Chain Harness, Bull Chains, Saddles (ladies and gent's), Bridles, etc.

Blacksmiths' Bellows, Anvil and Tools and Carpenters' Tools.

9-Room House (shingle roofed; Stable for 10 horses, with hay loft above; Stone Roosthouse, Store Buildings, Dairy, Cow Sheds, etc., etc.)

4 Miles (about) Standing Fences, in good order; Corncries, 10 miles barbed wire and staples; about 2,500 Posts on the ground, ready for use, etc., etc.

Small Lot Household Furniture, Stove and Pipes, Crockery, etc., etc.

This Property is within easy distance of many of the most important Gold, Silver and Coal Mines West of Canada. The population of this district will increase this year by at least 10,000; the area of farm land is very limited, and from this it may be fairly asserted that beef and all classes of farm produce will find a ready and lucrative market. The soil is the best bottom land, and the locality is one of the few places in the Province where so large a piece of good farm land can be found in one block. A river runs through the property, and rainbow trout are plentiful and afford capital sport. Deer abound in considerable numbers. Bear, Wolf, Coyote and other large game are to be found in the hills. There are two creeks and brooks and belonging to the estate, one flows all the year round. Limestone and brick clay are to be had in the valley.

A BONANZA!

To any person or corporation having the capital and knowledge necessary to develop and work this estate. A store, hotel and blacksmith shop could be run in connection with the farm.

P. O. BOX 188.

TELEPHONE NO. 74.

VICTORIA'S FAIR.

Manufacturers Taking a Lively Interest in the "Best Exhibit" Competition.

Farm, Live Stock and Other Entries Coming in at a Lively Rate.

Preparations are going ahead merrily for Victoria's great fair, an immense amount of enthusiasm being taken by those who intend to exhibit. The manufacturers especially are going in keenly for the competition for the best exhibit, the result of which is to be decided by a popular ballot of the public attending the exhibition. Already men are at work in the buildings getting stands up and preparing for placing the exhibits. Nor are the farmers backward in showing their appreciation of the fair, as their entries are away ahead of last year. From all parts of the province these entries have been received, and will include a splendid fruit exhibit from Lytton.

The other departments are also going to be well filled. The new machinery hall will be taxed to its utmost, and will prove a most interesting feature.

The New Vancouver Coal Co. are sending down a huge block of coal weighing between six and seven tons to show what British Columbia coal mines can do.

A finely executed decorative design emblematic of the agricultural exhibition has just been completed by Mr. Rene Quentin, who is manager of the art department. The picture represents British Columbia presiding at the distribution of prizes, with Agriculture, Manufacture, Agriculture and Science forming a jury of award. A beautiful female figure representing Victoria is holding out a laurel crown towards the figures typical of all the industries of the Province, which are grouped at the foot of the broad stairway leading down from the tribunal. At one side the Genius of Immortality reads out the names while the Genius of History writes them upon a panel. Above the whole the British flag spreads its protecting folds. A view of the agricultural buildings and the new parliament buildings is included in the design and surrounding it are other

small designs in keeping with the subject. The design is exceedingly well fitted for a diploma and is very handsome and artistic in effect.

Walter Milbey's triptych, given to him by the children of Victoria for a Christmas present in 1892, will be on view and Walter will be on hand to explain its ingenious mechanism.

Circulars have been sent out to the different societies by Mr. Boggs, general secretary of the celebration committee, requesting that two delegates from each lodge attend a general meeting at the city hall on Friday, September 28, at 3 p.m., for the purpose of arranging to make Societies Day a great success. The societies will no doubt work energetically to make the day a credit to Victoria and the fair.

Yesterday Mr. J. H. Falconer of the general committee met the school teachers of the public schools to further the arrangements for Children's Day. The teachers gave a very satisfactory interview, showing that the school exhibit is going to be a fine one, including a botanical display got up by the High School pupils under direction of Mr. Fison. The children's choruses will be fine in number, patriotic songs quite properly forming the greater part of the programme.

The various horsemen of the province, as far as their addresses could be learned, have been written to by the general secretary asking them to take part in the various races. The programme of these races has been fixed upon as follows:

FIRST DAY—FRIDAY, OCTOBER 5.
1. Half-mile dash (open).....\$100
2. Stallion race, trotting and pacing, 3 in 5 (open).....125
3. H.C. stakes, running, for horses foaled in B.C. one mile and repeat.....150
4. Citizens' stakes, running, three-quarter dash (handicap).....100
5. Slow race, one mile dash (handicap).....100
6. Farmers' half-mile dash (4 min. limit).....50

SECOND DAY—SATURDAY, OCTOBER 6.
1. Five-eighth mile dash (handicap).....\$100
2. Trotting and pacing, 2 1/2 class 3 in 5.....175
3. Running one mile dash (handicap).....150
4. Trotting and pacing, for buggy horses (one mile previous to race day, owners to drive, 2 in 3; silver cup, value.....50

The executive of the Victoria Wharfedale met yesterday and advanced arrangements for the races in connection with the exhibition sports on opening day, Tuesday, October 2. Representatives of the clubs of Tacoma, Portland, Seattle, Colfax, Aberdeen, Port Townsend and Bellingham Bay are expected to take part, all these clubs having

The Cattle are well bred; a much larger herd could be farmed with the place. The bunch grass on the hills in the vicinity covers many thousands of acres, and is available to the few land owners in the valleys. All buildings and fences about the farm are a good order, and farming operations can be gone on with at once; about 180 acres of ploughing have been, so far, provided for this year's work.

The Climate is not severe, the land being about 1,100 feet above sea level; the station was for many years the winter quarters of the H. B. Co.'s pack trains. There is a weekly express in and out. Goods and supplies at wholesale can be procured on order and delivered in 48 hours.

The Title is by grant from the Crown, and is free of all encumbrances. Immediate possession can be given.

Important Railway works are now in progress within moderate distance, and two railway lines have been run to pass close to or through the estate, which can be reached in the spring in three days' journey from Victoria.

The South West Kootenay District, British Columbia, is, judging from the actual ore products of the mines this winter, destined in the next year or two to become one of the richest and most important mineral centres in the world. Statistics show that although the district is in its primary stage, the mines have developed ore veins rich enough to warrant the investment of over million dollars. When these mines come to be worked systematically, there will be an

Influx of Population, which will require beef and farm produce in large quantities. The limited quantity of really good farm land in the district to supply these requirements makes this

THE SUMMER PALACE.

"Entrances to the Gate of the Southern Heavens"—Kubla Khan, Invaders to Introduce Western Civilization.

No. 2.

Can one wonder it, on gazing at such a scene, pride should in its arrogance name it "The Middle Kingdom," "enclosed as it was by mountains. In travelling over Mongolian plains, his troops were clad from top to toe in furs, and even then not over warm; but, as they descended, the temperature falls, until they are obliged to throw aside the furs; to find themselves in a genial climate, among flowers and pleasant groves. Tartar and Manchus were struck with such a contrast, calling it in their happiness "The Flowery Kingdom," "The Heavenly Country," until, entering the East Gate, they were met by the inscription on its front face, "The Entrance to the Gate of the Southern Heavens," a designation which they doubtless heartily concurred in, after so many weary months of travel. To the traveller it affords much interest to gain some correct and clear understanding of the name of China, and what the people call themselves and their country. It seems "The Tsin" and "The Middle Kingdom" carry it their own way.

It was at Peking that Kubla Khan received in the three Palaces the first men from the civilization of the West, and it is mentioned that from this event arose the conception of building that stately pile at Yen Ming Yuen, destined as a palatial residence for ambassadors of the West—an idea fully carried out afterwards in the construction of beautiful palaces encircled in stately groves, gushing fountains, all built and designed on a plan of semi-European and Chinese magnificence; palaces of "perpetual brightness." Within a mile distance was to be placed the Imperial residence, at Wan Shou Shan, "the Hill of Longevity." He looked forward to the hope that his successors would reap the benefit of such communion with the advanced civilization of Western nations. This wise ruler sent to the Pope of Rome for one hundred priests and men of culture to instruct his people in the liberal arts and Christianity. The work some of these men accomplished is seen to-day at "the Imperial observatory" in the gold bronze astronomical instruments of huge dimensions and so accurately balanced that the celestial globe of eight feet in diameter, on which stars of the seventh magnitude find place, is turned by the force of a child. Here under the heavens, the young and old literati of China listened with interest to the teaching of those revered scholars of Europe.

GENERAL BOOTH.

ST. JOHN'S, N.F., Sept. 21.—Gen. William Booth, who founded the Salvation Army, has arrived here. He is the guest of Sir Robert Thornburn, ex-premier. Gen. Booth will make a tour of America, visiting all the large cities in Canada and the United States during the next six months. He will visit Tacoma December 30, Seattle December 31 and January 1. Leaving Seattle the General will go to Victoria, B.C., and thence traverse the great Canadian North-west.

NAPLES, Sept. 20.—The roof of a school building in this city collapsed to-day burying twenty children in the wreckage. The dead bodies of several have been taken out, and workmen are removing the debris as rapidly as possible in the hope of finding some of the unfortunate ones still alive.