

and the purchase of a site upon which to place the necessary buildings for that purpose. The matter will come before the electors for their decision on October 19th.

A number of sealing schooners have recently returned to Victoria. Several vessels have had prosperous trips, one schooner bringing in over 2,000 skins. None of the vessels have been molested this season by the United States authorities, whilst fishing in Behring's sea.

The Vancouver *Herald* the daily evening journal, has suspended. This left the *News-Advertiser*, the morning paper, alone in the field, but a new evening journal, the *West*, has since commenced publication. The suspension of the *Herald* was no doubt hastened by the movement to establish a second evening paper.

Colonist. As an evidence of the wonderful fertility of the soil of the Spallumcheen valley, the yield of a field of fourteen acres on Frank Young's rancho will serve to show. From this he threshed twenty-three tons of clear wheat, and gathered up 1,100 pounds suitable for stock feed. The yield throughout the Spallumcheen and Okanagan valleys will have an average of 50 bushels, or 3,000 pounds to the acre. This yield is probably unequalled in any portion of the world.

The seizure of the Victoria sealing schooner *Arauna*, by Russian authorities, whilst sealing in the North Pacific, has caused considerable interest. The matter will be made the subject of diplomatic correspondence. The *Arauna* was a new schooner of 73 tons burden, belonging to Hall & Goepel, of Victoria, and was brought round the Horn by Captain Seward last year from Lunenburg, Nova Scotia. The captain is confident that he can prove that the capture took place on the high seas.

Tall crop stories are plentiful. The *Westminster Columbian* is authority for the following:—The largest yield of oats recorded this season is credited to Thos. Shannon, of Clover Valley. He has threshed from a field of five acres a little over 700 bushels of oats, which gives the magnificent average of 140 bushels to the acre. The above figures can be verified by responsible persons who were present when the grain was taken from the field and threshed. We could mention half a dozen instances where 120 bushels of oats was the average to the acre, but as this yield is so common it is unnecessary to make special note of them. We challenge any other province in Canada or any state in the American Union to equal this yield.

Since the woollen mill was established in this city, says the *Westminster Columbian*, sheep-raising is gradually gaining ground among the farmers of the lower Fraser. The price of wool is from 6 to 10 cents per lb., and we are told that the woollen mill here furnishes a market for all the wool the farmers have for sale. Many parts of the district are well adapted for sheep-raising, that are not so suitable for other things. These could be utilized for sheep runs almost exclusively; but there is probably not a farmer who could not profitably add sheep-raising, on some scale or other, to his usual branches of farming. In the Chilliwack valley there is a large tract of country, principally foothills, that is principally adapted for sheep runs, and when it is opened up, which will be

soon, sheep raising will be entered into extensively. British Columbia is constantly demonstrating that its outlook as an "agricultural country" is not nearly so forlorn as some wise-acres and interested villifiers would have the world believe.

General Notes.

Plums are said to be a great crop in Nova Scotia.

A great deal of smuggling is going on at Sault Ste. Marie.

The Londonderry, N. S., Iron Co., has received an order for 2,000 car axles.

A sample of granulated sugar, refined by electricity, was shown in New York recently.

The Howell Pulp Factory has commenced working at Ottawa, Ont. The concern at present employs about forty hands. Sawdust is the staple used in the manufacture of the pulp.

Granulated sugar was advanced $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ on Monday at the refineries, and the price of retailers' lots will be advanced at least $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢. Yellows were also held higher. Refiners were asking $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ advance, on certain grades.

Supplementary letters patent have been issued to the Nova Scotia Steel Company (Limited) increasing the capital stock from \$310,000 to \$1,000,000, and extending the objects of the company to the manufacture of steel and iron in all branches.

A private cable to Montreal parties from Denia quotes Valencia raisins at 22s for off-stalk, and 27s cost and freight for layer—showing a shilling advance over last previous cables, based, as is supposed, on continued wet weather, in connection with light shipments. A cable from Patras quotes currants 17s cost and freight.

A Montreal exchange says:—One of the largest apple crops ever produced in Canada is expected this year, and very reasonable prices are looked for both in Canada and the States. West of Toronto farmers are wanting to contract at \$1 per bbl on the tree, which would bring the price laid down here to \$1.90 and \$2, which dealers here say is too high in view of the large crop to be moved.

Paris Ont. voted on the 14th by law to grant a bonus of \$5,000 to F. Wylie for the purpose of establishing a winery mill. The bonus was carried by a large majority, the vote standing 265 for and 35 against.

Dodds & Jolly, of Yarmouth, N. S., have started a knitting factory, giving employment to about 25 hands. The present capacity of the factory is 400 pairs stockings and 200 shirts or drawers per day.

One of the largest sales of raw sugar in the Montreal market for some time was made recently. The lot consisted of 479 hhds Barbadoes, weighing about 2,000 lbs. each. The price was 6¢ per lb., and it is said nets the importers a handsome profit.

The recent heavy rains in Virginia are said to have been injurious to the crop of peanuts, and as the yield is estimated to be not above half the usual quantity, the price has further improved, with considerable business closing at $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ for best hand-picked and $\frac{1}{4}$ ¢ for seconds.

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