

all of last year in the mountains between Slooan and Kootenay lakes, cause great excitement amongst mining men of both sides of the line.

Last winter unfortunately was an exceptionally late one, the snow lying deep on the mountains till the early part of July, and in consequence of this many prospectors who had come to the country as early as February or March, exhausted their supplies before it was possible to get in the hills, and had to leave the country, many of them in their disappointment giving the country a bad name on the outside.

However the now strikes of the last two months, and the uniform success of all development work so far done have amply disproved their predictions.

The ore in this district is mainly galena, and its peculiarity is its remarkably high grade and the large bolies in which it is found. The average value of the great bulk of the ore is from \$120 to \$220 per ton in silver, and from 50 to 75 per cent lead. The principal mines are the "Noble 5," group, the "Freddie Lee," the "Washington," "Blue Bird," "Lucky Jim," "Sloan Star," "Whitewater," "Best," "Diamond Cross," group, "Brennan," group, "Beaver," "Wellington," "Chambers," group, and many others. All the above have had extensive development work done on them, and nearly all have shipped samples of their ore to get a conclusive test of its value. In every case without exception the returns are most promising.

The "Whitewater," "Best," "Diamond Cross" and "Freddie Lee" are making continuous shipments of ore, having it packed down on pack animals to water communication, the three former via Kaslo and the Kootenay Lake, and the "Freddie Lee" via New Denver and Nakusp to the Arrow Lakes on the Columbia River. All the other mines mentioned have large quantities of ore on their dumps, and are in shape to put out much more, but the owners are waiting till better means of transport are available, as the cost of picking ore down to either Kaslo or Nakusp varies from \$45 to \$60 a ton, and from some of the mines would be far more. This improved communication they are in a fair way to get soon, and in a future letter I will, with your permission, describe what has been done and is now doing in that direction.

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Kaslo, B.C., Sept. 16.

#### Brief Business Notes.

Kaslo is going to apply for water works.

Chas. S. Daskey, tobaccoist, Victoria, closed by mortgagees.

Carter & Tolmie, brewers, Victoria, have dissolved; Carter continues.

Vancouver passed the \$300,000 bonus to the Northern Pacific on Saturday.

Anderson & Retallick, real estate and mining agents, Ainsworth, have dissolved.

J. Almonie and Harry D. Beck, as the Bal-four Trading Co., have dissolved; J. Almonie continues.

Mr. Kight has purchased the business and good will of Wright & Smith, blacksmiths, of Chilliwack.

M. W. Minthorn, formerly of Strathroy, Ont., is opening in the boot and shoe business in Westminster.

The Empress of India, due on October the 1st, has 275 passengers and a good cargo, consisting of 510,000 pounds of silk, 1000 tons of coast cargo and 600 for the East.

S. H. Mershon, of Mershon and Timberlake, has been appointed Deputy American Consul at Vancouver. Mr. Mershon is son-in-law member of the firm of Mershon & Timberlake.

After making elaborate preparations for a trip to the south Pacific sealing grounds the owner of the schooner Libbie, a sealer, gave it up for the present. The trip is costly and attended by a good many risks.

The Chilean ship Lake Leman, 1,035 tons,

completed her lumber cargo for Valparaiso at the Moodyville sawmill last week. Her cargo, which consists of 807,110 feet of rough lumber and 14,138 laths, is valued at \$9,610.

Col. James Pierce is in the province representing the Pierce Patent Stone Co. His samples are very fine, and he reports his ability to make artificial stone, much better and nicer, at half the cost of natural stone.

The British Columbia Cattle Co., it is understood, has made an exchange with Geo. Hayes, butcher, Vancouver, the former acquiring Hayes' Vancouver business and Hayes taking over the Westminster business of the B. C. Cattle Co.

The American ship Geo Skolfeld, 1,278 tons, has finished loading a lumber cargo at the Hastings saw mill for Valparaiso. Her cargo consists of 931,316 feet of lumber, being composed of 10,363 feet of clear, 182,539 feet of tongued and grooved and 737,539 feet of rough lumber.

Walter Burns has purchased within the past few days several thousand seal skins, this season's catch, at an average of \$10 per skin. For some of the parcels, \$1 more per skin was declined not many weeks ago. Among the cargo secured by Mr. Burns was that of the Penelope,—some 1,700 odd skins.

The debentures of the municipality of North Vancouver have been withdrawn from the market, and contractors on the new road from the North Arm of Burrard Inlet to Howe Sound have stopped work on the chances of getting more money. The roads and bridges are nearly completed and would have cost \$5,000. The contractors have got about 75 per cent. in progress estimates.

The new Vancouver Coal Co. are sinking another slope near the Nanaimo river, and it may be presumed that they have not far to go before they reach coal. All the shafts are said to be in perfect condition, with abundant coal available in each one. The output for the present month will be larger than any previous month this year, and the pay roll will correspond accordingly.

The stockholders in the Burrard Inlet and Fraser Valley Railway company held a meeting on Thursday. The following were elected directors of the company: C. D. Rand, A. Ewen, A. G. Ferguson, E. E. Rand, H. T. Ceperley, P. McL. Forin, and M. McLeod. At a meeting of the directors held subsequently, C. D. Rand was elected president and H. T. Ceperley secretary-treasurer.

The council of the new Municipality of Dewdney forwarded a resolution to the board of trade, in which they ask G. E. Corbould, M. P., to urge upon the Dominion Government the advisability of protecting the banks of the Fraser from the incursions of the current, and asked the board of trade to add its voice to the request. On motion of T. H. Ceperley, a resolution was passed in accordance with the wish of the Dewdney council.

The Great Northern railway are building a spur from the main line to Galena landing on the Kootenay river to receive and transfer all ore during the entire winter, and many other arrangements are being made by the Kaslo-Kootenay company to keep Kaslo open all the year round, a thing which has never been attempted before. Notices of application to Parliament have been given to incorporate an electric light and power company, also a water supply and motor company.

Tenders were opened at Kaslo City last week for the construction of a wagon road from that place to Cody Creek, in the Sloan mining district. Eleven bids were received, of which 5 were considered by the citizens' committee, all being very close in the estimates of cost of construction. The contract was finally awarded to John Lane of Nelson, the price per mile being \$1,110. The entire distance is estimated at 30 miles. The contract stipulates that the road to Bear Lake shall be completed within 60 days, and the entire line be finished on or before Aug-

ust 1st, 1903. The width of the road bed is to be 10 feet, rounded in the centre and ditched wherever necessary, with proper bridges and culverts.

General Superintendent H. Abbott, of the Pacific Division of the C. P. R., has written a letter to Dr. Macnaughton Jones, Dominion Quarantine Officer, at Victoria, making the suggestion that, in order to prevent the introduction of any infectious or contagious disease from the Orient, all the steerage passengers arriving on the C.P.R. steamers should be quarantined for 15 days on their arrival, whether there is any disease among them or not. He also suggests that all steerage baggage be fumigated. Dr. Jones has replied that without special instructions from Ottawa, he will be unable to comply with the request. He suggests, however, that Mr. Abbott should take the matter up with the Ottawa authorities.

#### Lower Prices for Exports.

The New York Commercial Bulletin says "the heavy decline in export prices in August, as compared with last year, to which is due in no small measure the net decrease in the values of leading products, exported, is shown in the following table:

	August 1892.	August 1901.
Cattle, head .....	\$39.66	87.52
Beef, canned, per lb .....	.034	.091
Beef, fresh, per lb .....	.083	.088
Beef, salted, etc., per lb .....	.051	.067
Tallow, per lb .....	.019	.050
Bacon, per lb .....	.081	.076
Ham, per lb .....	.110	.102
Pork, per lb .....	.067	.060
Lard, per lb .....	.077	.073
Butter, per lb .....	.181	.147
Cheese, per lb .....	.092	.091
Barley, per bushel .....	.511	.603
Corn, per bushel .....	.572	.678
Oats, per bushel .....	.417	.380
Rye, per bushel .....	.749	.931
Wheat, per bushel .....	.810	1.039
Wheat flour, per bbl .....	4.57	5.09
Cotton, per lb .....	.0325	.0938
Crude oil, per gal .....	.0168	.0322
Naphtha, per gal .....	.0578	.0667
Illuminating oil per gal .....	.0604	.0627
Lubricating oil per gal .....	.149	.153

From the above it will be observed that the only articles the price of which have been maintained or increased as compared with a year ago, are cattle, hog products, dairy products and oats. On all other articles the prices show heavy declines. This is most notable in breadstuffs and oils. Wheat shows a decline in price of nearly 22c per bushel, corn 10c per bushel, and flour 52c per barrel."

#### Prairie Chickens.

Every fall there is considerable discussion as to the best way of protecting this noble bird. As soon as the close season ends, the slaughter of the birds commences. Every paper one may chance to pick up, is likely to contain an item about the number of birds bagged by some sportsman or sportsmen, the number sometimes running into the hundreds. The law in Manitoba as it stands at present, prohibits the sale of these birds at any time, with a view to preserving the species. The effect of this, however, seems very largely to simply preserve the birds for the amusement of sportsmen. Very few people have the time and inclination to go shooting, while those who delight in the sport, go out and slaughter the birds by the hundreds. Those who cannot shoot for themselves, cannot procure a bird at all, unless as a gift from a friend, while a few have the sport all to themselves. Some way might be devised of protecting the birds as fully as at present, or even more fully, and still allow those who cannot shoot them the chance of obtaining a bird.

Canada's exports for August were over \$13,000,000, being nearly three and a quarter millions more than the figures for the same month of last year. The imports also show an increase.