

but because of the belief prevailing that silver has no stable value. Yet prospecting and development are going on with unabated vigor in the rich mining districts of Kootenay in this Province. Silver may have no stable value at the present time, owing to the monetary agitation going on, but this cannot continue long and the question will have to be settled in some way so as to give the precious metal its true value. Whatever that value may be it is certain that the richness of the discoveries in the Kootenay will always make silver mining a most profitable industry in that district.

But the agitation over the silver question will benefit British Columbia in another direction by stimulating gold mining. The real wealth of this Province in its gold mines is as yet only a matter of surmise, although sufficient is known to warrant the belief that with proper appliances the yield of the precious yellow metal will be very great. Already we hear of capital being directed towards opening up and working the gold mines of Cariboo and other districts, and we may expect that the output will be very considerably increased during the next few years. Experts declare that the hidden treasures of gold in the Mountains and streams of British Columbia are immensely rich, and that the mining hitherto carried on in a rude way and which yielded over fifty million dollars was only the washings from the rich deposits farther back in the Mountains. Gold mining is certainly coming to the front in this country and some remarkable finds may be expected.

#### THE INLAND FISHERIES.

It is understood that the Provincial Government is making an effort to have the inland fisheries legally vested in and controlled by the Province. In this the local government is doing good service and it is to be hoped will meet with success. It is apparent that the authorities at Ottawa are continually making a mess of it in their management of this important industry and that the mistakes being made are hampering our fishermen very considerably. The offal question is one that should certainly be under the control of the Provincial Government because it could be better regulated in the interest of all parties without injury or injustice to any. Local regulations could then be put in force to suit the circumstances of the case based upon the health laws of the Province whereas the Ottawa authorities are not in a position to do this intelligently being so far removed from the scene of operations.

The fisheries department of the Dominion Government seem inclined to make unjust discrimination in favor of certain rivers to the injury of others, and the fishermen on the Fraser River are not treated in the same way as those in the North. It seems only fair that the local authorities should at least control the offal question, because it affects not only the health of the Province but its proper regulation has a great bearing upon one of our most important industries. Mr. Wilmot's headstrong views are never likely to be regarded with favor in this Province, and the sooner his arbitrary measures are curtailed or prevented altogether the better it will be for the Province.

This should be a good year with our Salmon canneries but it is too early yet to predict the result of the seasons work. It is to be regretted that there should be any trouble between the fishermen and the canneries in regard to prices, and it is to be hoped that the matter will be settled in a satisfactory manner to both, especially as the latest report is that the fish are running strong in the Fraser.

#### THE CANADIAN PACIFIC NAVIGATION CO., LD.

The Canadian Pacific Navigation Company of which Captain John Irving is manager has been for years an important factor in aiding the development of