

man a bona fide British subject. The canners have given their ultimatum, which is "If the stringent regulations favored by the fishermen are in force next season, not a fish will be canned on the Fraser river."

British Columbia in 1898.

R. P. Rithet & Company, of Victoria, B. C. in their monthly circular say: Following our custom, we comment briefly upon the course of business in British Columbia during the past year. In almost every direction there has been expansion of a highly gratifying nature. Of the staple industries of the province, mining is perhaps the most interesting, and it is satisfactory to note the marked development of old fields and the rapid opening up of new ones. British Columbia is however, far from being a poor man's mining country, as capital is the great desideratum. Still, even with comparatively limited means, much has been done, and when the attention of the financially strong has been thoroughly aroused, great things may be confidently expected. Within quite recent date discoveries have been reported from Atlin—in the north of this province but not far from the coast—that give promise of the richest results. The district is easy of access, and being free from most of the disadvantages of Klondike, climatic and otherwise, offers a fair field to the miner. The lumber interests are without any special feature, so far as the output is concerned. The era of low prices which existed so long has, however, come to an end, mainly through scarcity of logs, and it seems likely that values will be permanently established on a higher plane. The output of coal during the year has surpassed all previous records, amounting to over 1,125,000 tons.

Salmon packing has experienced one of its periodical setbacks, the run, except in the north, having been of the most disappointing character. This, however, is not necessarily an unmixed misfortune, for it has checked too rapid expansion, and its influence on the general market has, in some respects, been entirely beneficial. The salmon fishery is, in its very nature, of a highly speculative character, and bad years are only to be looked for from time to time. Considering the difficulties under which sealers have labored during the past five years, the result of last season is surprisingly good, for, although many have been forced out of the industry and the fleet was consequently greatly reduced in numbers, the catch proved nearly equal to the previous year's, and was ultimately sold at fair prices.

The Doukhobors.

The Doukhobors are an entirely new class of settlers for Canada. They come from Southern Russia, in which country, it is alleged, they have been greatly persecuted, owing to their religious beliefs. Like the Mennonites, they are opposed to military service, and this was one feature which brought them into trouble in Russia. Their religious beliefs and mode of life partake something of the nature of the Quakers or Friends. They are described as a sturdy agricultural people and from all accounts will make peaceful, industrious settlers.

If the Doukhobors average up anything like as well as the samples shown in the picture given herewith, they are certainly a fine looking lot

of people. The cut shows the families of John Ivan and Peter Machortoff, representatives of the people who are now settling in Western Canada. The first steamer arrived last week at St. John with over 2,000 of these people, and some 2,000 more are due a little later. The first lot are now reaching Winnipeg. They will be quartered at Winnipeg, Brandon, East Selkirk, Yorkton and other places, until they can be located in colonies in the spring.

Montreal, Jan. 25.—A seat on the Montreal stock exchange board sold on Jan. 25 at \$10,000.

000, divided into shares of \$50 each. D. Klason, D. Scheelenburg, K. Hude, J. Duck, J. Reimer, P. R. Frissen and P. Harder are the applicants.

Wm. Postlethwaite, late manager of the Farmers' Elevator Co., Brandon, has been committed for trial on the charge of fraudulently committing to his own use grain that was stored in the elevator.

At a meeting of the farmers, held recently at Miami, Man., it was decided to build an elevator. A provisional directorate was appointed consisting of W. D. Boyd, T. Renwick, R. Johnston, S. Umphrey, John George, W. Sprott and C. F. Collins.



A GROUP OF DOUKHOBORS

Grain and Milling News.

It is expected that a new flour mill will be built at Indian Head, Assa., this year.

The merchants of Moosomin, Assa., propose to have an elevator erected at that town this year.

The farmers of the district have decided to erect a 35,000 bushel elevator at Rosebank. Shares were subscribed for liberally.

Oatmeal was quoted 10c per barrel higher at Montreal on Monday, at \$3.70 per barrel for rolled, though some was offering at \$3.60.

The Farmers' Union Elevator Co., of Grétna, Man., is applying for incorporation. The capital stock is \$10,-

Industrial Combination.

The formation of industrial combinations continues to be the order of the day. Among the more important reported since the beginning of the year is the plan to amalgamate the carbon manufactories of the country into a company with \$10,000,000 capital, and the proposal to increase the capital of the American Steel and Wire company to \$90,000,000, for the purpose of acquiring the Washburn & Moen and other wire concerns which did not join the combination when it was formed a year ago.